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**ARCTIC ACTION!**

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**4-channel mixer monsters reviewed and rated**

**WIN! CREAM RESIDENCY!**

**Life-changing DJ competition inside**

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**Exclusive Homelands festival preview**

**THE BEST SMALL CLUB IN BRITAIN**

**Techno, electro and basement mayhem**

**FC KAHUNA**

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**SVEN VATH**

**CLUBS, BARS, GIGS**

**328 TUNES!**

**WORLD'S BIGGEST AND BEST DANCE MUSIC REVIEWS p79**

Dedicated to dance music

**TOP TEN BOOTLEG CRIMES**

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**328**

**TUNES!**

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29.04.02



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**58**  
X-PRESS 2



**68**  
OPTIMO

**58 X-PRESS II AND DAVID BYRNE**

**COVER FEATURE**

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**64 FC KAHUNA**

Jon and Dan kick off about Oakenfold, the dance media, the death of big beat, and, of course, Dr Who's robot dog K-9

**68 OPTIMO**

A Sunday club where everyone has it to electro, Nina Simone, Joy Division and the Lords Of Acid - it's a Glasgow thing. . .

**72 TRABANT**

The best, maddest and hairiest Icelandic electronic pop act around. Bar none



**72**  
TRABANT



**39**  
TALENT



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THE MESSAGE

# MUZIK

Every month...

## The Message

**12** Throwing DJs out of an aeroplane for chardee, bootleg mania, the wise words of Yousef, Dub Pistols Q&A and, best of all, your chance to become a Cream resident – yes, really!

### 39 TALENT

The lovely Gemma Hayes leads a pack that includes rocking house from 16th Element, lounge cool from Les Hommes, and intense hip hop from El-P

## The Tunes

### 77 ALBUMS

Apart from top X-Press 2 and FC Kahuna action, Badly Drawn Boy is busy scoring movies, Sven Vath's firin' out the techno, and Crystal Method offer something dodgy for the 'Tweekend'

### 87 COMPILATIONS

From the cafes of Paris to the vampiric hip hop of 'Blade II', from Miguel Migs delightfully 'Nude' to Defunk'd's soul deep in the jungle, all musical life is here. . .

### 93 TRAINSPOTTING

The most expert review panel in town hold forth. And there are interviews with everyone from Yoko Ono to Portugal's DJ Vibe.

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Rants, moans, and a begging letter from Iraq!

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MIXERS REVIEWED

**Saturdays...**



**April/May 2002:**  
**Junior Jack & Kid Creme, Jazzy M, Smokin' Jo,**  
**Kidstuff, John '00' Fleming, Gareth Cooke,**  
**Norman Jay, Paul Jackson, Bobby & Steve,**  
**Guy Ornadel, Mark Wilkinson, Lisa German...**

**rulin** *High Society*  
 High Society meets Rulin  
 Fabulous One O...

**SOUL HEAVEN**  
 Soul Heaven Presents ...  
 Residents Heaven

**rulin**

**TRIBALISM**

**golden**  
 Launch Party of  
 Monthly Residency


**20.04**

**Box**  
**ROBERT OWENS**  
**FRANKIE FONCETT**  
**BERT BEVANS**  
**(STUDIO 54)**  
**Rulin Bar**  
 Percussion -  
 Shovel (M People)  
 Mike Herrera  
 Johnny Landers  
 Jerry Drew  
 Nick Dare  
**Baby Box**  
 Dan One (Morcheeba)  
 Femi (Young  
 Disciples)  
 Little Andy

**27.04**

**Box**  
**PHIL ASHER**  
**ANDY WARD**  
**NEIL PIERCE**  
**LUKE MCCARTY**  
**PAUL TROUBLE**  
**ANDERSON**  
  
**Bacardi B Bar**  
 Bobby & Steve  
 Rude Boy Rupert  
 Chrissy T  
**Baby Box**  
 Double Jay

**04.05**


**Box**  
**JAZZY M (4HR SET)**  
**KIDSTUFF**  
**PAUL JACKSON &**  
**MARK WILKINSON**  
**(4HR SET)**  
**RulinBar**  
 Digital Souls  
 Gareth Cooke  
 Phil Gifford  
 Jeremy B  
**Baby Box**  
  
 Brian Cheetham  
 John Askew

**11.05**

**Box**  
**SMOKIN' JO**  
**LISA GERMAN**  
**MIGUEL PELLITERO**  
**Rulin Bar**  
 Marc Hughes  
 Harj  
 Gareth Cooke  
 Carlos Francisco  
**Baby Box**  
 The Sunday Club

**18.05**

**Box**  
**JOHN '00' FLEMING**  
**GUY ORNADEL**  
**DEAN WILSON**  
**PETE BROMLEY**  
**RulinBar**  
 Junior Jack &  
 Kid Creme  
 Norman Jay  
 Mark Westhenry  
 Gareth Cooke  
**Baby Box**  
 The Usual Suspects

 **Coming Soon**  
 Defected Records Monthly  
 Residency Returns

**NOISE**



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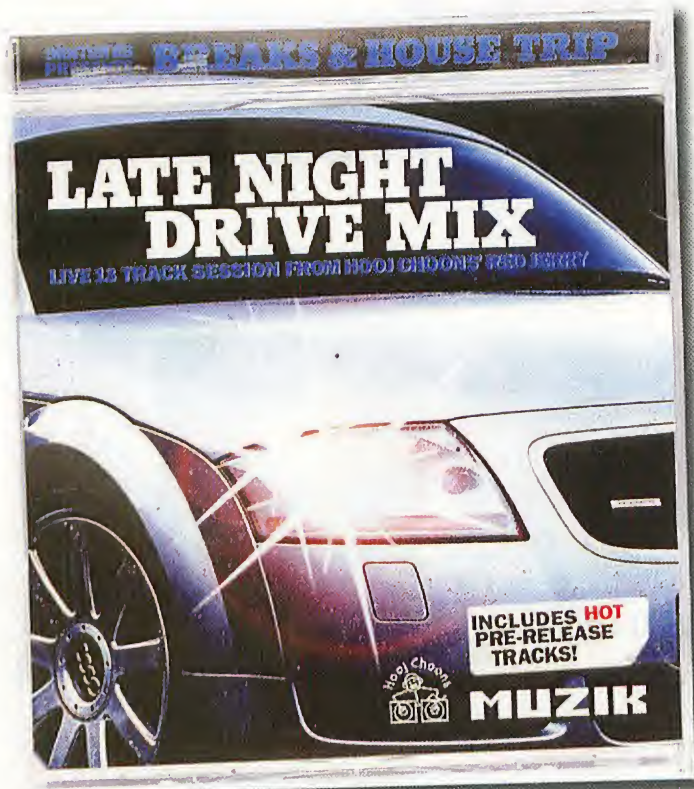
Red Jerry at Hooj Choons HQ,  
Lonsdale Rd, London

# Artist **Red Jerry**

Name: **Elements Presents Late Night Drive Mix**

Recorded on: **March 6th 2002**

Recorded at: **The Bunker, N19**



**O**ur 'Late Night Drive' mix was recorded in one take at Jerry's Bunker studio. The Hooj Choons boss spent several weeks preparing for his one-hour ordeal, determined that his mix should reflect the breadth and scope of his infamous club night, Elements.

"It's a fairly accurate representation of the vibe of the club," says Jerry. "Musically, we try to make sure that we're not just 'prog'. We use tribal beats and breaks – I always try and move things up a little bit, rather than banging it out."

The mix is 60 minutes of grimy tech-house and dramatic drum patterns, with the emphasis on the Hooj imprint's own titanium-plated productions. Pressing hard on the accelerator from the off, Jerry opens with the pounding melodic prog of Blue Effect before the haunting midnight melodrama of Blackwatch and Creamer & K's 'Wish You Were Here' sets the tone for the drive ahead. The wheels start to fly when

**"People are getting bored of drums but this is atmospheric and moody rather than Hammer House dark!"**

Morel's guitar-plucking 'Driving To Heaven' zooms into the mix, Uhuru Beats are as hard as they come and Smith & Selway's 'Yess' is like Underworld at their best.

This is music to turn up while the lights go down – and in the case of the tracks by Rasoul, Peace Division and Joshua Collins, it's music that you almost certainly haven't heard before, so upfront is the unreleased material on board.

In short, Jerry's mix is dark, relentless and sexy as hell. Your motor's bassbins will be thanking you for months.

## **RED JERRY'S TRACK BY TRACK PREVIEW**

### **1 Blue Effect Blue Horizon**

"Airgap is a West Country label. We thought this sounded a lot like Tom Middleton's stuff, and then we found out he had sold half his studio to these guys and taught them how to use it! So now there are loads of mini-Jedis making lovely records. Big, warm, techy, deep house."

### **2 Joshua Collins Phonosynthesis**

"He's an American producer, based in Chicago. This is something that's coming out on our reinvigorated Prolekult label. It's a bit more techy, but still nice and spacey."

### **3 Blackwatch Foreshadow (Creamer & K Mix)**

"Blackwatch is Michael Thomas, a New York producer. This is a Creamer and K mix which uses loads of drums. People are getting bored of drums, but this is atmospheric and moody rather than Hammer House dark!"

### **4 Creamer & K Wish You Were Here (PMT Remix)**

"It's got a really nice vocal and PMT's added his break-step vibe. It's been around for nearly a year but sounds like a bigger record – it could be up there with Kosheen if it was done the right way."

### **5 The Producers Be Yourself**

"Really effective dancefloor stuff – Tony Thomas is great! This is an example of the West Coast sound – it's got energetic drums but it's a little bit steelier. A good solid house record. Or something."

### **6 Uhuru Beats 003 Smoking With The Motherfuka**

"Nice title! The label is something to do with Swag in Sheffield, and this is by Grant Dell. Very little happens, but it's got very swingy drums that sound amazing on a big sound system."

### **7 16B Escape**

"This features Morel, the American dude who's worked with Deep Dish. Here, he teams up with our very own Omid, tech-house's answer to Mötley Crüe! We had a hard time with this record – a lot of the progsters find Morel a bit camp. Still a firm favourite round these parts."

### **8 Christian Smith & John Selway Yess**

"One riff, a bassline, some hi-hats and a shaker! A solid, thumping club track from two producers at the top of the tree. Definitely my favourite record on Underwater so far – a really good club track."

### **9 Peace Division R U Somewhere?**

"We've done a lot of work with Peace Division and I was desperate for them to make a vocal track. We got them together with a singer but the song never came out on vinyl. It sounds really dramatic in a club."

### **10 DJ Rasoul Oh Baby (Kerbcrawler Mix)**

"Rasoul is from San Francisco, though this mix is by Quinn Whalley [one half of *Different Gear* – Ed] and he's done stepping-breaks, the kind of thing that Lee Coombs does so well. With a Hoxton-friendly bassline and electro elements, it takes people sideways rather than up and down."

### **11 16B The Game (Tony Thomas Mix)**

"This is a mix of Omid's new track with pumping drums added by Tony Thomas – he's a busy man! It's a more intense take on the original and it just fitted so well. The thing about Omid is he's just so varied."

### **12 Anthony Rother Red Light District**

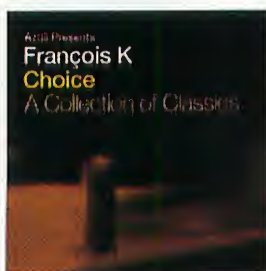
"This is three or four years old and is from the deeper, more introspective end of Elements. I hate to use the word 'trancey', but it's pretty hypnotic and it's a nice way to take the CD off into different waters, rather than having a 4/4 assault at the end! A nice mood alterer."

### **13 David Alvarado Blue (Christian Smith & John Selway Mix)**

"Again, Smith & Selway. If the Underwater track showed their direct approach to stuff, this shows how the spacier side of their production sounds. Warm, lovely and brilliant. I wanted to end on a high point."

The next Elements night takes place at Turnmills on April 13th and features guest sets from Satoshi Tomile, John Creamer, Red Jerry, Echomen, Joeski and Clive Henry

# THIS MONTH'S ESSENTIAL PURCHASES



## AZULI PRESENTS FRANÇOIS K

### Choice A Collection Of Classics

- Following on from the excellent Frankie Knuckles album of the same title, Azuli enlists the musical pedigree of DJ and producer François K
- Veteran François K has been instrumental in the evolution of dance music from disco to house
- Featuring tracks such as Zulema's Giving Up and Tribe's Koke, alongside newer tunes by Lil' Louis and Fingers Inc



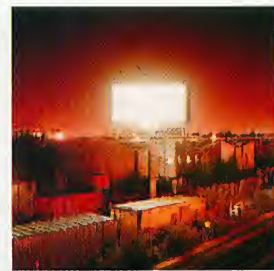
## DJ HYPE Fabriclive.03

- As part of Heatwave Soundsystem DJ Hype acquired a reputation for mixing up reggae, hip-hop and house with the all-inclusive attitude he now applies to drum 'n' bass
- A pioneer of the genre at home and abroad, DJ Hype delivers a mix true to his consistently sold-out FabricLive residency
- Hype cuts, hacks and doubles-up tracks in shaping this exquisite 18-cut FabricLive mix, an essential purchase



## SOMA 10 ANTHOLOGY Various Artists

- Soma 10 brings together some of the finest names and tunes that have helped to shape British dance music over the last decade
- Available on Double CD and 2 x LP, part 1 is a quality techno collection while part 2 brings you the label's finest house moments
- A limited edition Slam "Hidden Treasures" Soma mix will be available with the first 1,000 copies



## F C KAHUNA Machine Says Yes

- Already given album of the month / issue in Jockey Slut, 7, Muzik, DJ and Mixmag, it already appears to be one of the records of the year
- The Kahunas will debut their live set in the summer and will play at Creamfields in August
- Includes the fantastic Hayling and dancefloor bomb Glitterball, both of which were Essential New Tunes on Pete Tong

WHATEVER TURNS YOU ON

Virgin

megastores

# Editor's Letter



It's that time of year again, when I'm allowed to leer at y'all from above the editor's letter because Muzik's top dog and his tight team of sycophantic sybarites are busy catching rays poolside in Miami during the Winter Music Conference (about which, more next issue), admiring the weft of Armand's latest beard.

Those of us remaining sprawl about the office swilling cheap lager and listening to The Stranglers, Rui Da Silva, Freq Nasty, and The Wicker Man soundtrack. But do you know what's really pressing our buttons right now? As I ranted to anyone who'd listen at Muzik's relaunch party in the AKA the other week, it's Trabant! "Who?" you ask, but that's the point, isn't it? Finding these weirdo bands that no one's heard of and helping to turn them into huge megastars (occasionally).

We've also got X-Press 2 ladding it up with David Byrne in New York and FC Kahuna holding forth on the state of dance music. Hell, even Yoko Ono's popped in for a chat! But Trabant, eh? They're from Iceland, on a tiny label, making chunky pop monster funk with a side helping of electronic lunacy. They're gonna be huge. HUGE, we tell you! You read it here first. . .

Chin chin!

Thomas H Green **Deputy Editor**

## THE MUZIK OFFICE SET-UP

Pair of Technics SL-1210M3D decks • Pair of Stanton 890SA cartridges  
• Pioneer DJM-600 mixer • Denon PMA 100M amp • Denon DCD-485 CD player • Denon TU 260 LI tuner • Pair of Elac 207 speakers



DENON Technics STANTON Pioneer ELAC

# MUZIK

Muzik Magazine, IPC Media Ltd, King's Reach Tower,  
Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS

Tel: 020-7261-5993 Fax: 020-7261-7100

Website: [www.muzik.co.uk](http://www.muzik.co.uk)

**Editor** Conor McNicholas [conor\\_mcnicholas@ipcmedia.com](mailto:conor_mcnicholas@ipcmedia.com)  
**Deputy Editor** Thomas H Green [thomas\\_green@ipcmedia.com](mailto:thomas_green@ipcmedia.com)  
**Production Editor** Tom Mugridge [tom\\_mugridge@ipcmedia.com](mailto:tom_mugridge@ipcmedia.com)  
**Art Editor** Declan Fahy [declan\\_fahy@ipcmedia.com](mailto:declan_fahy@ipcmedia.com)  
**Assistant Editor** Ralph Moore [ralph\\_moore@ipcmedia.com](mailto:ralph_moore@ipcmedia.com)  
**News Editor** Victoria Goodwin [victoria\\_goodwin@ipcmedia.com](mailto:victoria_goodwin@ipcmedia.com)  
**Picture Editor** Kate Dwyer [kate\\_dwyer@ipcmedia.com](mailto:kate_dwyer@ipcmedia.com)  
**Sub Editor** Duncan Bell [duncan\\_bell@ipcmedia.com](mailto:duncan_bell@ipcmedia.com)  
**Clubs Editor** Karen Young [karen\\_young@ipcmedia.com](mailto:karen_young@ipcmedia.com)  
**Editorial Assistant** Funke Kugbola [funke\\_kugbola@ipcmedia.com](mailto:funke_kugbola@ipcmedia.com)  
**The DJ Manual** (gear) Simon Munk [simon@b-boy.co.uk](mailto:simon@b-boy.co.uk) and Caramel Quinn [caramel@b-girl.co.uk](mailto:caramel@b-girl.co.uk) (hi-fi gear), Nick Watts [nick@coldmountain.co.uk](mailto:nick@coldmountain.co.uk) (DJ gear)

**Many thanks to:** Christie Ferdinando (design), Melissa Turner (Acting Picture Editor), Vicky Smith (editorial assistance)

## Contributors

**Writers:** Will Ashon, Chris Coco, Doug Cooper, Stephen Dalton, Ned Denny, Mark Devlin, Terry Farley, Tony Farsides, Ian Fletcher, Marina Forsyth, Lee Foster, Neil Gardner, Cal Gibson, Seamus Haji, Andrew Holmes, Katrina Huntley, Vince Jackson, Dr Bob Jones, Mark Kavanagh, Christian Koch, Dorian Lynskey, Kevin Martin, Kevin McKay, Phil Mison, Dave Mothersole, Sian Patten, Pezz, Ed Pott, Mark Roland, Jonas Stone, Carl Stroud, Tayo  
**Photographers:** Circe, Chris Beardmore, Jamie Beedon, Jason Bell, Gemma Booth, Debbie Bragg, Jay Brooks, Andy Fallon, Simon King, Rebecca Lewis, Pieter M van Hattem, Jason Manning, Neil Mersh, Andrew Rae, Simon D Warren

**Ad Director** Karl Marsden 020-7261-6073  
**PA To Ad Director** Tribha Shukla 020-7261-5519  
**Head Of Music Sales** St John Betteridge 020-7261-5482  
**Ad Manager** Graeme Walker 020-7261-5570  
**Business Development Manager** Denzel Thomas 020-7261-5372  
**Senior Sales Exec** Mia Appelbrink 020-7261-7073  
**Senior Sales Exec** Denise Barnard 020-7261-5209  
**EQ Sales Exec** Jamie Clarke 020-7261-5532  
**Sales team:** Lisa Myers, Katherine Galligan, Ollie Scull, Andy Goldsmith, Nina Flynn, Kate Karabinis, Danielle Klein, Anna Threlfall  
**List Management** 020-7261-7098  
**Ad Production** Laurie King 020-7261-5464  
**Acting Head Of Solutions** Jessica Smalley 020-7261-5766  
**Business Development Manager** Rachel McFadyen 020-7261-6134  
**Business Development Manager** Michael Kohn 020-7261-6088  
**Project Co-ordinator** Vicky Irwin 020-7261-7581  
**Classified Ad Manager** Steve Mitchell 020-7261-5634  
**Head Of Classified Sales** Sharon Wright 020-7261-7036  
**Classified Sales Executive** Rebecca Geoghegan 020-7261-2866  
**Insert Sales, London** 020-7261-6013  
**Insert Sales, Manchester** 0161-872-2151  
**Bedroom Bedlam booking enquiries** Lily Management 020-8653-0664

**Syndication enquiries** Lynda Woodley 020-7261-5415  
**Senior Marketing Manager** Gabrielle Bell 020-7261-6293  
**Marketing Assistant** Sophie Towers 020-7261-7355  
**Production Manager** Sam Bishop 020-7261-7228  
**Publishing Manager** Richard Coles 020-7261-7993  
**Group Publishing Director** Eric Fuller  
**Managing Director** Mike Soutar

**Back Issues Hotline:** 020-8503-0588  
**Subscriptions Hotline:** 01622-778-778

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# FABRICLIVE.

## FRIDAY 12TH APRIL

ROOM 01:  
**UNKLE**  
**FREQ NASTY**  
**PLUMP DJ'S**  
**STANTON WARRIORS**

ROOM 02:  
**CUBIK MUSIC**  
**PESHAY**  
**KRUST**  
**BRYAN GEE**  
**SWIFT**  
**DJ SS**  
**A-SIDES**  
**NEIL MAC**  
**MC'S MOOSE, GQ & WARREN G**

ROOM 03:  
**SHAANTI**  
**BADMARSH**  
**DJ SUKI (ASIAN DUB FOUNDATION)**  
**DHOL FOUNDATION DRUMMERS**  
**BOBBY FRICTION**

## FRIDAY 19TH APRIL

ROOM 01:  
**FILA BRAZILLIA (LIVE)**  
**SCRATCH PERVERTS**  
**JAMES LAVELLE**  
**ALI B**

ROOM 02:  
**ANDY C**  
**FABIO**  
**BAD COMPANY**  
**SHY FX**  
**OPTICAL**  
**ELECTRIC LANE**  
**MC'S GQ & RYME TYME**

ROOM 03:  
**NICE NICE PRODUCTIONS**  
**DJ SPINBAD**  
**SKITZ AND RODNEY P**  
**THE NEXTMEN**  
**BOX CLEVER**

## FRIDAY 26TH APRIL

ROOM 01:  
**A NIGHT OF TRUE PLAYAZ**  
**DJ HYPE**  
**ZINC**  
**PASCAL**  
**RANDALL**  
**TOTAL SCIENCE**  
**MARLEY MARL**  
**MC'S FATS, DET, RAGE & AD**

ROOM 02:  
**THE BAYS (LIVE)**  
**DEADLY AVENGER**  
**JOE RANSOM**  
**ROSS CLARKE**

ROOM 03:  
**THE LAUNDRY**  
**ALISON MARKS**  
**DAMIAN ISAACS**  
**OLLY GROVES**  
**STEVE DA CONGA**  
**RIKKY ROCK**

## FRIDAY 3RD MAY

ROOM 01:  
**RAHZEL (LIVE)**  
**SCRATCH PERVERTS**  
**STANTON WARRIORS**  
**JOE RANSOM**

ROOM 02:  
**KAOS**  
**ADAM F**  
**RONI SIZE**  
**FABIO**  
**DJ HYPE**  
**BRYAN G & JUMPING JACK FROST (B2B)**  
**BAD COMPANY**  
**J MAJIK & FUTUREBOUND (B2B)**  
**MC'S DYNAMITE, GQ, SKIBADEE & MCMC**

ROOM 03:  
**DYNAMO PRODUCTIONS**  
**GEOFF BARROW (PORTISHEAD)**  
**ANDY SMITH**  
**SCOTT HENDY**

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# Vocal Track

**Letters:**  
The Editor, Muzik, IPC Media,  
King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street,  
London SE1 9LS  
**E-mail:** muzik@ipcmedia.com

Please include your name and address



## THIS MONTH'S TOKEN SENSIBLE LETTER

Dear Muzik  
The debate about whether DJs should use CDs has been going on for some time now, but I feel there's an important point that has not been discussed – piracy. I believe that the increasing use of CDs by DJs can only lead to a major increase in piracy.

Many people already copy their friends' albums onto CD or minidisc to avoid the ridiculous cost of music in the UK, but up until now this hasn't troubled the dance music industry as bedroom DJs need their 12-inch singles to mix. People can't copy onto vinyl as the equipment needed costs a fortune.

But if the new Pioneer CDJ1000 CD decks take off and the new generation of bedroom DJs buy them instead of Technics, they will be tempted to copy onto CD rather than buying an original. Also, they would be able to copy and edit a track onto CD from the radio and have it months before the official release date.

The quality of dance music will only suffer if vinyl dies, as producers will find it impossible to get their tracks signed by labels due to the fall in sales that result from piracy. Long live the 12-inch single... even if it is expensive!  
**Neil Richardson, Bath**

## LETTER OF THE MONTH

I can't believe people keep writing in about James Zabiela's hair and how bad it supposedly is, but nobody's mentioned the most offensive hairstyle in dance. I refer, of course to Australian rasta and breaks don, Freq Nasty. He's a great producer, but he seems to have a sort of 'hair table' going on. His mass of dreads is so flat, you could balance your drink on top of his head. Surely this is more deserving of ridicule than James Zabiela's effeminate back-combed gothic number?

Yours sincerely  
**Brian Dangerous, Nottingham**

*Thanks Mr Dangerous, and boy have you hit it lucky! Here at Vocal Track, we pride ourselves on offering only the finest prizes to our Letter Of The Month winners, but this month we've surpassed ourselves. You have won a Boards Of Canada kaleidoscope!! And a BOC postcard!!!*



Fred Nasty: Worst hair in dance?

*Thank you for your salient points, Neil. Considering that most DJs are Luddites who recoil in fear when faced by technology newer than the wheel, before lashing out blindly and collapsing in a corner hugging themselves, we reckon vinyl's pretty safe. What do other readers think?*

## BLIMEY – HERE'S ANOTHER ONE!

Dear Muzik  
What the fuck is the deal with So Solid and Oxide & Neutrino being yanked off the bill at Homelands after pressure from the police? I'm no fan of either act, but this is blatantly both censorship and racist, anti-youth neo-fascism. Supposedly, the cops said they 'wouldn't police the event' if So Solid played. What the fuck is that about? Since when do the police have the right to not do their job if they don't feel like it? Fuck 'em AND their law!  
**Andrew Harrington, Stockport**

## PRAISE US LIKE YOU SHOULD

Dear Muzik  
I'm writing to say how much I like your new look, funky style magazine. Colourful, glossy, groovy graphics, jazzy layout, spot-on music reviews as always. It was shining at me on the shelf! Nice one Muzik crew – respect is due.  
Yours truly  
**Lee Davies, Speke, Liverpool**

*No, we didn't make that one up.*

Dear Muzik  
Love the new look, especially the reviews section, which for the first time in ages I can now read without the need for a magnifying glass. I also noticed that for the cover feature, you've somehow managed to make The Chemical Brothers look cool, which is quite an achievement.  
Yours truly  
**Alan Herd, London**

## CHEMICAL IMBALANCE?

The mag looks dead good – I hadn't bought it for a few months, but it was a really good read. Shame you totally ass-kissed the Chemical Brothers, though. The whole thing was one big arse-licking. I do think they are good but it's funny when Ed gets all uppity when people suggest they have lost it. Never mind.

Regards  
**Karl, by e-mail**

*Er, well, Ed Chemical's hardly going to respond to being told The Chems have 'lost it' by saying "Yep, you're quite right – we're hopeless! Let's kill ourselves!" Are you sensible?*

## SADDAM FINE LETTER

I'm Iraqi man and I'm 28 years old and I'm very interesting in the art of the west. So sir I hope you sending me the magazine with some nice posters please sir.

I best wishes to you sir.  
**Sherko Di Sabir, Iraq**

*Yet another example of Muzik making people come together. Hopefully, us sending our decadent infidel filth to Sherko won't result in his being visited by the men with the electrodes...*

## ODD PERSON'S CORNER

Dear Muzik  
As I am unwell and house-bound I asked my elderly (lady) neighbour to pick up your mag for March 2002.

It gave me no pleasure as there was no CD attached and it looked like someone had read it over a few times as the corners were folded over.

I know this sounds odd but after a few pages I put it in the dustbin. It had obviously been read and I did not want any more germs.

Sorry about that.  
**Tony Lee, Bow, London**

*You certainly sound rather 'unwell', Tony, but never mind. We've had a copy of that issue sterilised, and it's winging its way to you now. God we're in a good mood this month.*

## TEXT MUZIK

Send your thumb scribbles to:  
**07732-169-179**

THERES NOTHING WRONG WITH MY HAIR YOU TARTOIDS! – J ZABIELA

NEW LOOK OF MUZIK IS LOADS BETTER MAINLY COZ OF THE LARGER REVIEW SECTION. GET ZERO 7 2 DO 1 OF UR FREE CDS THAT'D B WICKED! – EM

GROOVE ARMADA CD IS THE MUTS NUTS! THEY ARE AMAZING AND THE ONE ON THE LEFT (P6 APRIL ISSUE) IS FIT AS FUCK! BONUS! B X

POP IDOL'S GARETH GATES HAS JUST BEEN CONVICTED FOR DRINK DRIVING AND MANSLAUGHTER. THE JUDGE HAS SENTENCED HIM TO 5 YRS BUT HE'S UNLIKELY TO FINISH HIS SENTENCE.

TOP WEEKEND, PULLED A STUNNER, SHAME I PISSED HER BED AND HAD 2 SNEAK OUT... LUV P.A.

I AM DIDDLED! COWS SMELL GOOD 2! VIVA!

WHOEVER INVENTED WORK NEEDS A HURTING.

ROSES ARE RED DAISYS R WHITE AS I TYPE THIS, I'M HAVING A SHITE. SANDZI

NOTE THE NUMBER, STICK IT IN YOUR PHONE, DROP US A LINE WHEN THE MOOD TAKES YOU.

Thanks to BT Cellnet for the phone. www.btcellnet.com

**BTcellnet**



The Chemical Brothers: Cool?

# The Message

TWISTING THE FILTER FOR OPTIMUM OUTPUT



## THE MILE HIGH CLUB

... Or how we chucked 12 DJs out of a plane. ...

**W**hen it comes to raising money for charity, how far can you go? 15,000 feet, upwards, apparently. ...

On Tuesday March 5th, Muzik's Clubs Editor Karen Young, Credence Records, Play Music and a host of DJs staged a mass charity parachute jump just north of Lincoln, as part of World DJ Day's efforts to raise money for The Nordoff Robbins Trust. A number of DJs (from Adam Freeland to Yousef) had pledged to jump out of a plane alongside Karen. Some chickened out (the roll of shame is opposite), and others only just made it in

time – step forward Brighton boy Freeland.

"I was in the studio until 4.30am, then at 6.45am my phone started ringing. It was Karen, going 'It's today!' I thought it was the following Wednesday. I made it to the train with 30 seconds to spare!"

The actual jumps took place from one o'clock onwards – after 10 (count 'em) but-clenching minutes of training. The jumpers were Karen Young, Adam

Freeland, Swiss techno DJ/producer Christian Smith, Dub Pistol Barry Ashworth, DJ Touché, Alison Duker from Credence and members of the Play Music staff. The jump lasted 60 seconds of freefall and seven minutes of open parachute with all participants strapped to a professional trainer.

"It's an amazing, indescribable

and completely unnatural experience," exclaimed Karen.

"Hurtling through the air is quite strange!" added a breathless Christian Smith, "but we got beautiful weather and it's for a good cause." Joining him post-jump, Barry Ashworth was typically exuberant.

"It's alright until the door opens – then you look down and you can't even see!"

"You're being thrown out of a plane and that goes against every instinct in your body," Touché said. "The first five seconds are pure terror."

The Mile High Club raised over £5,000 for Nordoff Robbins. Too busy to collect the cash from his sponsors, Adam opted to give £400 from

his own pocket. Carl Cox and Sasha contributed £100 apiece to Karen Young and Zoe Ball bunged an impressive £500 to former Wiseguy DJ Touché. ("I've done a parachute jump before," she revealed beforehand, "so I know how it feels!")

The post-Mile High Club party continued until the small hours at Leeds University Student Union, where DJs included Yousef and MYNC Project. Even Basics boss Dave Beer was spotted having a boogie. A great way to end an eventful day. And the Mile High Club helped towards the overall total World DJ Day figure: a spectacular £400,000. Result!



TOP 5...  
THINGS TO  
DO THIS  
MONTH

1

### CHOOSE: YOUR HOMELANDS OUTFIT

You'll be hot, cold, sweaty, shivery and wet at some point over the 18 hours. Go to [www.homelands.co.uk](http://www.homelands.co.uk) for general info and to [www.met-office.gov.uk/weather/europe/uk](http://www.met-office.gov.uk/weather/europe/uk) for a forecast.



2

### DRINK: CANNABIS VODKA

Cannabis Sativa seeds 'n' cereal alcohol tippie that tastes of weed. 40% alcohol by volume, \$44 plus p&p. Go to [www.absinth.com/links/cannabismvodka20.html](http://www.absinth.com/links/cannabismvodka20.html)



## "THE DOG ATE MY PARACHUTE"

Muzik names and shames the Mile High no-shows

### ABSENT: YOUSEF

**Excuse:** "I was exhausted after being on the road for the last few weeks."

**Punishment:** Well, he did turn up for the afterparty. Half an hour detention.

### ABSENT: LOTTIE

**Excuse:** "I DJed at Fabric the night before and also at HMV's World DJ Day shindig on Oxford Street the afternoon of the jump."

**Punishment:** But the jump date was set way before the HMV gig! Sweep the playground for a week.

### ABSENT: ALEX P

**Excuse:** "I was in bed with terrible flu that morning."

**Punishment:** We can't argue with a valid sick note.

### ABSENT: DAVE BEER

**Excuse:** "My wife was worried sick about it. She put my daughter on my knee and said, 'Are you sure you want to jump?' What could I do?"

**Punishment:** Milk monitor for a month.

### ABSENT: JON CARTER

**Excuse:** None given and no word since. What a bottler.

**Punishment:** 300 lines, Carter. No, not that sort.



### GOOD SHIT

#### BEARDS

Tom Middleton was ahead of his time, you know. Grow one today!

#### boards of canada.com

Neat site alert!

#### THE NEW LHB CD

It smells of celery. Dunno why, but it's weird.

#### THE OSBOURNE FAMILY

MTV's fly-on-the-wall with Ozzy and his wife and kids is M.E.N.T.A.L.

#### AKUFEN

This Canadian electronica geezer's name is 'the phonetic spelling of the French word for tinnitus'. Eh?

#### DELICIOUS LAGER AND LOVELY GIN

Always Number One in our hearts and livers.

### BAD SHIT

#### SCHOOL DISCOS

They're springing up everywhere, full of tits wearing poxy uniforms. Can it!

#### ELECTRO CASH-INS

Stand up 'Electric'. A Flock Of Seagulls, Landscape, Feargal Sharkey, and the sound of barrels being scraped.

#### TRILBYS

Frank Sinatra-style soft headwear worn in clubs? You wankers!

#### MIAMI

Yawn.

#### LEFTFIELD

RIP.

#### BEARDS

In the time it's taken you to read this column, they've gone back out of fashion. Sorry.



pitch adj.

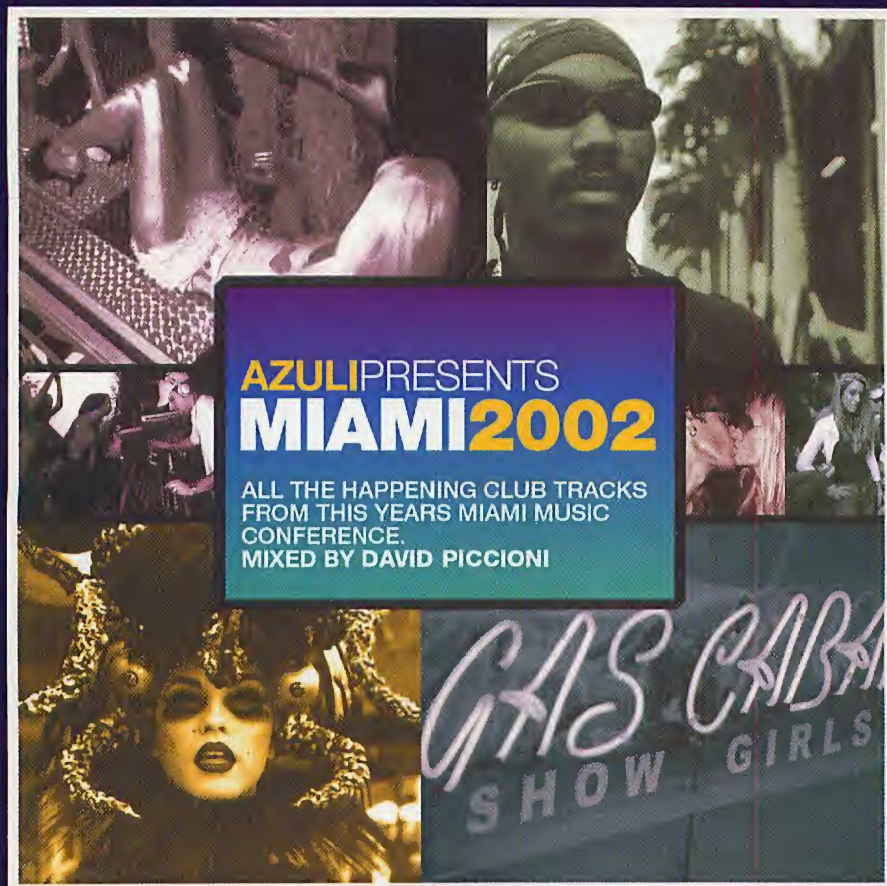
**3 SAY: 'STRAIGHT TO RINGTONE'**  
(as in "That piece of shite 12-inch? Going straight to ringtone, mate"). Frank Skinner said it, but ignore that and it's funny.

**4 JOIN: MAILERTRAIL**  
A music platform and streaming site that sends you tracks before they're even released. Go to [www.mailertrail.com](http://www.mailertrail.com).



**5 BOOK: STAR WARS TICKETS**  
It's not out in the UK till May 16th, but book now if you want a cat in hell's chance of seeing it in the first week...

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THIS YEAR WE ONCE AGAIN FEATURE A SUPERB  
ADVANCE COLLECTION.

**MIAMI 2002: THE FUTURE SOUNDS OF THE SUMMER.**



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EXCLUSIVE NEW INFO

# ADAM F FINALISES NEW PROJECT

The UK hip hop producer goes drum & bass (again)

**M**uzik can confirm that Adam F, the leading UK drum & bass scenester turned hip hop producer is currently finalising – logically enough – an album of drum & bass remixes of his acclaimed hip hop LP 'Kaos: The Anti-Acoustic Warfare'.

Entitled 'Kaos: The Drum & Bass Warfare', and set for release in summer, the album will feature a host of A-list names, including Goldie, Roni Size, Grooverider, Shy FX, Bad Company, J Majik, Mickey Finn, Frost and Dillinja. Each artist has reworked tracks vocalled by the likes of MOP, Redman and Capone 'N' Noreaga.

"A lot of remixers came to me," Adam told Muzik.

"Loads of people in drum &



bass love hip hop. Dillinja really wanted to do the CNN track and Roni loved the Redman tune. The people I've chosen are from right across the scene."

The project will be preceded by three or four limited

edition, vinyl twelves, beginning with an Origin Unknown re-rub of MOP's 'Stand Clear' in May. The twelves will only be available in one-sided picture disc form and will include colour cartoons of all of the hip hop artists involved in the original project.

**"A lot of remixers came to me. People in drum & bass love hip hop"**

"Every track will be dancefloor oriented," said Adam. "Doing the 'Kaos' project gave me a different way of hearing things."

The remix album will also act as a springboard for Adam's new Kaos label, which has already given birth to the single 'Metrosound' with J Majik.



Adam F



WHO'S SHOPPING AT...

## CONCEPTS, DURHAM

Stocking an eclectic range of grooves from house, trance and drum & bass to hip hop, leftfield and chill, Concepts is open seven days a week, pretty much 365 days a year.

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Fax: 0191-383-0112.  
Address: 4a Framwellgate Bridge, Durham, DH1 4SJ.  
Website: [www.concepts-durham.co.uk](http://www.concepts-durham.co.uk)



**Chris Moorcroft (18)**  
**Boards Of Canada**  
**'Geogaddi' (Warp LP)**  
"Boards of Canada are great. I adored their previous album and I'm starting to check out the whole Warp catalogue too."



**Alex Butcher (22)**  
**Puretone 'Addicted To Bass' (Gusto)**  
"This is great, a real grinder, and I've been told that the mixes are dead classy. I'm taking it straight home to check them out."



**Richard Collins (18)**  
**Lasgo 'Something' (Positiva)**  
"This one's a stormer – I can't wait to play it out. I heard it in a club and loved it instantly."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Transform**, the pressure group that campaigns for a realistic drug policy in the UK, are looking for cash donations

and general support in the form of club nights, etc. Check out their website at [www.transform-drugs.org.uk](http://www.transform-drugs.org.uk). . . Watch out for **Sabusa**, a new

US imprint from Who Da Funk, (Alex Alicea and Jorge 'DJ Lace' Jaramillo). "We'll see a lot of DJs playing Subusa tracks this year," says Erick Morillo. . .

Friday nights are changing at Radio 1, with Danny Rampling leaving the station in summer. Playing in his stead will be Fergie, continuing his rapid rise

through the ranks. Rampers is off on a two month tour from April 1st (Belfast), while his mix album 'Turntable Symphony' (React), is out late May. . .

Neil Barnes

Paul Daley

## LEFTFIELD SPLIT

The UK's best loved crossover house pioneers finally split

**L**eftfield have confirmed what industry insiders have been whispering about for some time now: they've decided to call it a day. The split is said to be amicable, and both of the duo will be pursuing solo projects.

Formed in 1990 by former Man Called Adam and Brand New Heavy Paul Daley and pal Neil Barnes, Leftfield belong to the generation of basement beat pioneers such as Underworld and the Chemical Brothers. They initially carved a

fearsome reputation, helping to invent progressive house along the way, with classic singles like 'Not Forgotten' and 'Song Of Life', and as remixers for the likes of Stereo MCs and David Bowie. Then, in 1995, they dropped their classic debut album 'Leftism', preceded by the Johnny Rotten-sung anthem 'Open Up'. Both are still considered classics by the dance music cognoscenti.

The duo then disappeared until 1999, when they released the 'Rhythm And Stealth' LP,

**"I'm not surprised they split, but good things come from change"**

spearheaded by 'Phat Planet', as used in the Guinness surfers 'n' horses ad – a tune that not even a Dave Clarke remix could make any harder. However, despite some

marmalising tracks, 'Rhythm And Stealth' never caught the public imagination in the same way as 'Leftism', possibly spelling the beginning of the end for Leftfield.

"I'm not surprised they split," says Dave Clarke, "but good things can come from change. 'Not Forgotten' was a favourite of mine and I'm proud to say I'm the owner of two virgin copies."

"This is not the end," said Paul Daley in a press statement. Start the hunt for Leftfield's back catalogue today.

### GAMES REVIEW

## THE X-BOX REVIEWED BY CHILL OUT KING ROB DA BANK

**"**"I'm not too practiced at games, and there are two joysticks which I had to get the hang of, but it's amazing. My favourite game's Halo, which is a real 'Boy's Toys' thing - lots of

killing. Project Gotham's a driving game with great music (go to San Fran and you get hip hop; in London it's the Chemical Brothers). Then there's Munch's Oddyssey: quite spooky and a real stoner's delight. The

sounds and characters are amazing. He farts too! I doubt anyone will go out again once they get one these. I certainly won't."

**The X-Box is available now, priced £299.**

**"**



Rob Da Bank

### TOP 5... BOOTY TRACKS

- 1) Sisco 'Thong Song' (Def Jam)
- 2) Sir-Mix-A-Lot 'Baby Got Back' (Def American)
- 3) Jay Z 'Girls Girls Girls'

- (Def Jam)
- 4) R Kelly 'Booty Call' (Jive)
- 5) Ice T 'L.G.B.N.A.F (Let's Get Buck Naked And Fuck)' (Sire)

### TOP 5... GROOVY DJ HOBBIES

- 1) Norman Jay Chopper bikes
- 2) James Lavelle Star Wars memorabilia
- 3) Derrick Carter Vintage couture footwear



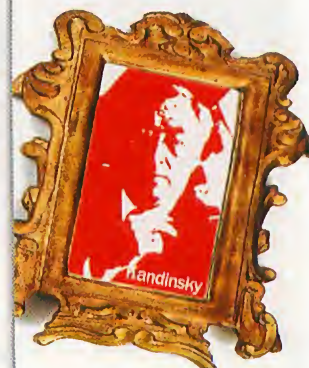
### IMPROVE YOURSELF WITH TIM SHERIDAN

Slapping you about the chops with a clever-fish  
**This month:**

## SYNESTHESIA

**S**ynesthesia is one of the most charming psychiatric disorders. Pronounced sin-ess-theez-ee-a, it's not a club, but it is popular with the famous: sufferers include the artist Kandinsky, novelist Nabokov and poet Rimbaud. It is, simply put, a mis-wiring of the senses, where one swaps input with the other. So if the synesthete has a sound/taste crossover, the sound of a train tastes 'metallic and bitter' and the sound of her son breathing is 'potato-y'.

Any two combinations of the senses may blur – with comical results: as a parlour game, why not make up your own amusing composites? How rum!



### Word Of The Month: BALDERDASH

as in "That rotter has been spouting utter balderdash from his column."


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# TOP TEN BOOTLEG CRIMES

Muzik's lynch mob drags 10 of the worst products of the current booty craze to the gallows and gives them what for

The splicing together of two tracks has gone stellar: Soul Wax are releasing a whole (cleared) boots compilation, there's a London clubnight (King Of The Boots) devoted to the genre, and Sara Cox even played a bootleg to Missy Elliot on her show, The Cure's 'Love Cats'

with Missy's own 'One Minute Man' vocal. Missy loved it. However, Trash's Erol Alkan, aka bootleg king 'Kurtis Rush', has recently given up the game for good: "Anyone with access to software can release bootlegs, but for every decent one, there are 15 that are crap." How right he is...

1



## 'GET DOWN ON MY PLATFORMS'

**Perpetrator:** Remains elusive  
**Tunes murdered:** Paul Johnson: 'Get Get Down'/Abba: 'Gimme Gimme'  
**Court report:** This was one of the first efforts, and was hugely popular in San Antonio back in '99. Despite being completely out of time and key, went on to sell "really, really well" (Mark Bishop, Hard To Find Records). "It's frankly awful," he admits.

2



## 'ENTER BITCH'

**Perpetrator:** Kurtis Rush  
**Tunes murdered:** Metallica: 'Enter Sandman'/Missy Elliot: 'She's A Bitch'  
**Court report:** This track (and others like it) were popular with the likes of Princess Superstar and Peaches, and was played full blast every morning by Campag Velocet's Pete as his personal wake-up call. Says Freq Nasty: "I played this loads in Australia. They're real rockheads, there, of course."

3



## 'CRAIG'S THEME'

**Perpetrator:** Nameless  
**Tunes murdered:** the Bagpuss theme/Artful Dodger: 'Rewind'  
**Court report:** First played at February's King Of The Boots club by Cartel Communique (he was sent an anonymous MP3). "It's worth the ridicule just to drop it and watch the youngsters dance away, blissfully ignorant of Bagpuss, while everyone else winces," says Tom Middleton.

4



## 'SUPERTHUG'S IN PHOENIX'

**Perpetrator:** Only a fool would own up  
**Tunes murdered:** Glen Campbell: 'When I Get To Phoenix'/Noreaga: 'Superthug'  
**Court report:** This monster haunted the hip hop world for around a year. "Just because two things are amazing on their own, they won't necessarily sound any good together," says a traumatised spokesperson for London's Crackin' Skullz. Quite.

5



## 'THE LADYBOY IS MINE'

**Perpetrator:** Stuntmasterz  
**Tunes murdered:** Modjo: 'Lady'/Brandy & Monica: 'The Girl Is Mine'  
**Court report:** The original bootleg take on Modjo's anthem was as clever as it was charming. But once picked up by Warner and tweaked, the magic disappeared. Still, it was less painful than the Modjo Versus Anastasia 'Lady, I'm Outta Love' horror that surfaced around the same time.

6



## 'DO YOU REALLY LIKE IT?'

**Perpetrator:** Picasio  
**Tunes murdered:** Harold Faltermeyer: 'Axel F'/Pied Piper: 'Do You Really Like It?'  
**Court report:** This first came out on Barry's Bootlegs. Norman Cook dropped it on R1 last month. However, if you're NOT Norman, you may only play this when everyone is off their tits ("That's when it brings a smile to the face," says Soul Wax's David Dewaele).

7



## 'UNCLE FUCKER'S D&B REMIX'

**Perpetrator:** Some Swedish bloke  
**Tunes murdered:** The South Park show  
**Court report:** Remember the "Shut your fucking face, Uncle Fucker!" insult? Loop it (over and over and over) with a squillion other South Park samples, put to some drums and bass and voila: utter crap. "It's funny to the point of sick," says bootleg hero Freelance Hellraiser.

8



## 'FREAKED OUTTA LOVE'

**Perpetrator:** Master Elliot  
**Tunes murdered:** Missy Elliot: 'Get UR Freak On'/Anastasia: 'I'm Outta Love'  
**Court report:** Following some inspired bootclashes using the Missy E acapella (try Kurtis Rush's 'George Gets His Freak On') it swiftly became the most abused vocal of the genre. This is the most offensive example. One well known beats DJ described it as "the worst tosh I've ever heard."

9



## 'LAST NIGHT RÖYKSOPP SAVED MY LIFE'

**Perpetrator:** Wisely remaining anonymous  
**Tunes murdered:** Röyksopp: 'Eple' /Indeep: 'Last Night A DJ Saved My Life'  
**Court report:** This might have been a joke, we admit. But Sean Rowley didn't find it very funny and took it off halfway through on his radio show The Nearest Faraway Place last month. Quite right, too.

10



## 'STUPID MONKEY'

**Perpetrator:** The initials NA were all we could find  
**Tunes murdered:** Sly And The Family Stone: 'Sing A Simple Song'/serial killer Charles Manson on vocals  
**Court report:** What were they thinking, sampling Charles Manson ranting about the joys of stabbing people? Popular round Christmas with 'ironic' tossers, and as grim a concept as Martin's 'High School Massacre'.

Soul Wax's '2 Many DJs' featuring some of their best bootlegs will be out on Import through PIAS this month. King Of The Boots is on the first Thursday of the month at The Asylum, London W1. Check out Hard To Find Records at [www.htfr.com](http://www.htfr.com) for more bootleg info.

"OH, ALRIGHT THEN!" FIVE BOOTLEGS IT'S OKAY TO DROP

### FREELANCE HELLRAISER

'A Stroke Of Genius'  
Christina Aguilera's 'Genie In A Bottle' with US guitar dudes The Strokes. Magic.

### KYLIE VERSUS NEW ORDER

Mixing 'Blue Monday' and 'Can't Get You...' boosted Minogue's cred no end.

### GIRLS ON TOP

'I Wanna Dance With Numbers'  
Classic seven that melds Whitney with Kraftwerk.

### KURTIS RUSH

'George Gets His Freak On'  
George Michael loved this meeting of Missy E and his own 'Faith'.

### Q TIP VERSUS MICHAEL JACKSON

Jacko gets it on in a 'Stop Don't Breathe' stylee. Big with those in the know.



GYNAECOLOGIST

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# SAINTS & SINNERS

This month's guide to the titans & tits of dance music

## SAINTS



### Sister Bliss

Sainted – quite literally!! – by 22 year-old artist Pierre Anstis (decorator of Propaganda and Turnmills). The talented dauber immortalised various DJs on canvas for a World DJ Day auction on Turnmills' website. Bliss's portrait, titled God Is A DJ, was the loveliest of the lot – yes, even nicer than Blocko and Peasy as 'Knights Of The Round Turntable'.



### Barry Faulkner

Barry Faulkner Snr that is, big cheese at The Empire, Middlesbrough, the home of Sugar Shack. Mr F's taking time out from head-counting the queue to run for Mayor, or – as he hilariously dubs it – 'Night Mayor' (do you see?). If he wins he's promised to allow ladies half price council housing before midnight, but no all-male households. Possibly.



### Samantha

The chic, sassy, sexaholic, (etc, etc) gay icon became cooler than ever in a recent episode, when she turned into a goggle-eyed rave monkey. Channel 4's Sex And The City visited a rather too clean NYC Trade, where she necked a cheeky pill – excuse us, 'took a hit of X', and began making 'I really love you' type noises. Big up the middle-aged rave posse!



### DJ Marky and Bryan G

After a successful New Zealand tour, drum & bass impresarios Marky and Bryan finished off the weekend at Auckland's Fu Bar. Such a damn good time was had by all concerned that the boys decided not to go home till Tuesday. Hmm, but what to do on the Monday? Play another shit-hot Fu Bar set, of course – this time completely free.



### Beth Orton

During her Fabric Live set, Princess Superstar summoned fellow chanteuse Beth Orton (collaborator on Superstar's album) on stage for an impromptu duet on 'Untouchable Part 2'. With her head bowed and hands in pockets like she'd just been told to tidy her room, Orton instantly had the whole room wanting to thoroughly 'protect' her.



### The Mile High Club

The Muzik massive really did World DJ Day proud, led as they were by Karen Young in her lunatic bid to raise some cash and be in the best WDJJD photos ever. A grand day out for everyone! And those of you who didn't turn up for the jump (just the party afterwards), all we can say is 'shame, guy'.

## SINNERS



### Kylie Minogue

The vampiric girl-woman with the Best Arse – and PR team – In Pop attempted to leech still more dance music blood at the Brits. As she flashed her bum to 'Can't Get You Out Of My Head', a loop from New Order's 'Blue Monday' appeared in the mix – just like in that cool bootleg! How post-modern! But how does it feel when your art grows old?



### Andy Lovegrove

Up-and-coming eclectic breakbeaters Awayteam had a boozy bender at Reykjavik's Kaffibarinn bar (co-proprietor: Damon Albarn), where Andy got cosy with a local lady, discussing the merits of local schools. The Awayteam massive merely gaped as Andy and the brunette yakked for Iceland all night. It was Bjork. Andy didn't recognise her. Joey.



### Stuart Patterson

On a recent jaunt to Barcelona with Ralph Lawson and Charlie Chester, Mr Patterson found himself rather the worse for wear one evening and removed all his clothing at his hotel. Unfortunately, he hadn't done so in the privacy of his own room, and thus had to crouch behind a lobby pot plant, then dash outside to avoid formal ejection.



### George Michael

On completion of 'Freek', Watford's most glamorous cottager emerged, radiant, from the studio he was using at Sarm West, bellowing for all to hear, "This is the best piece of music I've EVER made!" Well, we've heard 'Freek', so all we can suppose is the red rubber boilersuit George wears in the video has cut off the circulation to his ears.



### Tim Westwood

At Excess Decks' 'Most Expensive DJ Set' for World DJ Day, most of the jocks held their egos gamely in check. R1's Tim Westwood, however, just couldn't let it lie. Halting the previous record, he announced, "Yo! This is Tim Westwood! I've been representing hip hop since I was a kid! I'm gonna play you the best hip hop record ever!" (etc, etc.). He then cleared the floor.



### Dave Seaman

Original progster Dave appears to be giving the swerve to reality of late. He's now proudly employing a 'Brand Manager' and is trying to cut a deal with Nike, in order to put 'Dave Seaman Nikes' on the market. Of course, there's no risk of anyone thinking they might be named after Arsenal and England's hirsute Number 1 rather than an obscure DJ slaphead.

SPIT IT OUT!

"Though I love the aesthetics of techno trance and how it makes people feel, somehow the physical/visual results were unconvincing to me" Jeff Mills. You what?

"He likes me so much he tries to imitate me and does human things, like get on top of the cage and lie down" Robert Owens and his budgie Joey have a very 'special' love

"It was quite a thing to see Air play, and fucking hell, they sound like Joy Division. I could hear 'New Dawn Fades' in about three of their songs" Hooky feels the French connection

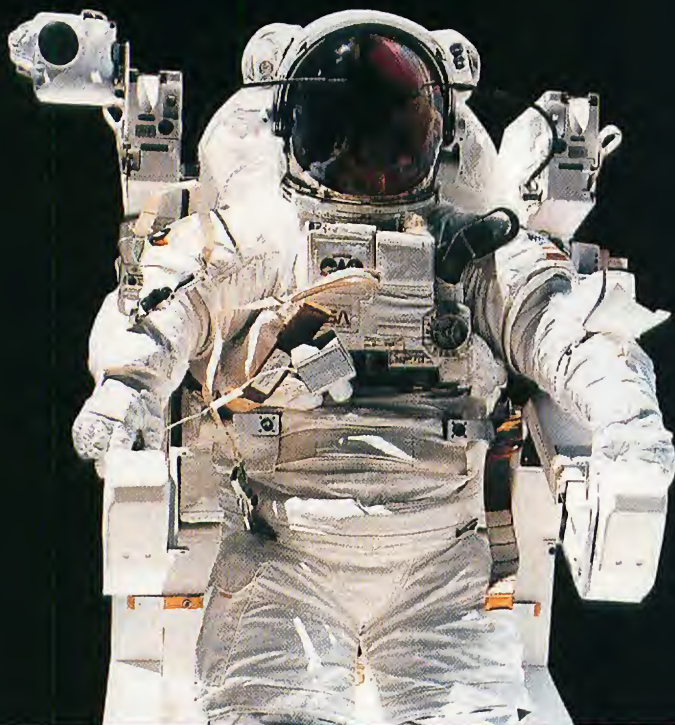
"We will give them [Ministry] the credibility to sign other artists. We're the flagship store" Fischerspooner on their new label's cred rating

"[French Channel 5-alike] M6 won't show it. They show films with girls being fucked. I'm shocked by their shock!" Cassius are taking their new 'I'm A Woman' video elsewhere



Defected

## SHAKEDOWN At Night

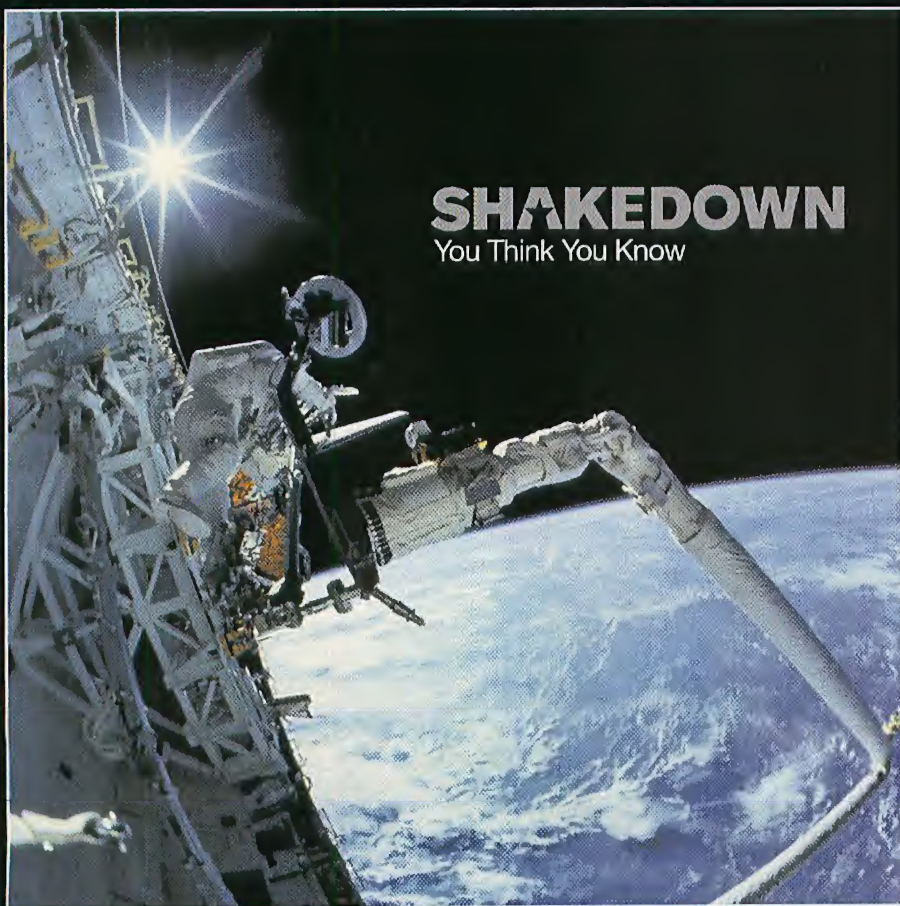


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**Competition**

**MUZIK MAGAZINE,  
THE GALAXY NETWORK  
AND JUICE FM PRESENT**

# CREAM RESIDENT

**THE SEARCH FOR A NEW CREAM DJ**



**C**ream celebrate their 10th anniversary this year, and to mark the occasion, the club – in association with Muzik, the Galaxy Network and Juice FM – are offering you the chance to win a contract to become one of their main resident DJs for 2003. Cream's residents Paul Oakenfold, Seb Fontaine and Yousef – who made his name winning Muzik's own Bedroom Bedlam DJ competition – jet around the globe spinning discs and building their increasing reputations, and that of the club, from Argentina to the Azores. Now Cream have teamed up

with Muzik, the Galaxy Network and Juice FM to find someone suitable to fill such highly rated shoes – a bedroom DJ who has the technical ability, charisma and record collection to go all the way.

The winner of Cream Resident will become a regular in Liverpool in 2003 but will also tour the world as a Cream DJ. They will be awarded a minimum of 52 gigs in 2003, including one a month in Liverpool. The winner will also be managed by Cream throughout the year. As if that isn't enough, and it's already got us drooling and running back to our homes to practice on our decks, Muzik will feature a cover-mounted CD

showcasing the winner's talent. Finally, the Galaxy Network will reward the winner with two hours to blast the airwaves with a pre-recorded show across the Galaxy Weekend.

Entrants to Muzik's Bedroom Bedlam competition – which has already projected Yousef and James Zabiela onto the worldwide stage – will automatically be entered into the competition.

So how do you become a Cream resident?

There are a number of steps that you will have to go through to gain access to the hallowed Cream turntables. First off, you must send in a 60-minute mix on CD, cassette or MiniDisc featuring a full tracklisting (artist, track title and label), a lovely picture of yourself at your most irresistible, and whatever personal details you think

might be of interest. You have until June 6th to get your mix to us with the entry form – which is only available below and in next month's Muzik. Muzik will announce 50 finalists in the August issue. These finalists will be divided into 10 regional heats where five DJs will battle it out in front of friends and clubbers and the Cream Resident panel, who will have the final vote. ▶

## MINIDISC MIXOLOGY



Send us your mix on MiniDisc for a chance to enter a prize draw, with a fantastic suite of Sony MiniDisc products as the prize. Sending your mixes to us on MiniDisc means that they can be packaged smaller for the post and also our judges can hear your skills on the supreme

quality that the minidisc format offers. It also gives the judges the chance to highlight parts of the mix they particularly like and skip directly back to them for future reference.



Broadcast across the Galaxy Network



**Galaxy**



THE NEW MIX FOR LIVERPOOL





► The judging panel consists of the following people:

**SISTER BLISS** (DJ/Faithless)  
**IAIN HOSKINS** (Cream)  
**NEIL BENTLEY** (Galaxy Weekend DJ - ClubFresh)  
**CONOR MCNICHOLAS** (Muzik Editor)  
**RALPH MOORE** (Muzik Assistant Editor)

the Cream X10 birthday weekend, a set to be broadcast live across the Galaxy Network. After this the winner will be installed as a Cream Resident from January 1st 2003.

It goes without saying that this is the chance of a lifetime for any budding young DJ. There are a million DJ competitions in existence but only one with a prize as big and significant as this.

So go to those turntables, let your inhibitions roll away, and rip up the vinyl as if you were born to rule the night. Maybe you were!

Good luck.

Each regional heat will also include a local dance music star on the Cream Resident panel. The 10 winners from the heats will then perform in the Annexe at Cream in September, where each finalist will be allowed to invite guests to lend support. The panel will also attend and make their final decision.

The winner will then be announced by Muzik, the Galaxy Network and Juice FM in October and will perform at

Tune into Neil Bentley and ClubFresh, live across the Galaxy Network and Juice FM every Saturday 6pm-8pm for the latest news & winning mixes on Cream Resident.



**MUZIK Magazine, the Galaxy Network and Juice FM present Cream Resident, the search for a new Cream DJ**

OVER 16'S ONLY

Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss etc)

Forename \_\_\_\_\_

Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address Postcode (if UK Address)

Country (if overseas address - complete in full)

UK Telephone Number (include STD code)

Foreign Telephone Number (ONLY complete if UK Tel No. is not available)

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (dd/mm/ccyy e.g. 01/03/1968)

\_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**MUZIK**

**Galaxy**

**Juice**

**X10**

IPC Media Limited, publisher of Muzik ("IPC") will collect your personal information to process your entry and to gain a better understanding of our magazine readership. We may send you details on our magazines and services. Please tick here if you prefer not to hear from IPC ☐. We may pass your details to other reputable companies whose products and services may be of interest to you. Please tick here if you prefer not to receive such offers ☐.

**Terms and conditions:**

The winner will be a Cream Resident from 1.1.2003-31.12.2003. The winner will play at a minimum of 52 gigs in 2003 including one gig a month at Cream Liverpool. The room they play in depends on their musical style and will be decided by Cream. The winner will be managed by Cream in 2003. The winner must be over the age of 16 and reside in the UK or Eire. The winner will be decided by the Cream Resident panel. Cream have no responsibility to manage the winner after 31.12.2003.

Your mixes should be sent to Cream Resident Competition, Muzik Magazine, IPC Media Ltd, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS

# ESSENTIAL NEW ALBUMS



## MASTERS AT WORK

### Our Time Is Coming

- Kenny 'Dope' Gonzalez and 'Little' Louie Vega unleash their long awaited follow up to 1997's critically acclaimed Nuyorican Soul, their first album under the Masters At Work guise
- Guests include soul and jazz giants like Patti Austin, Stephanie Mills, James Ingram and Roy Ayers
- "Every so often an album comes around which you can honestly say couldn't be improved on. The second long player from MAW is such a case" (Blues & Soul)

# WIN!

## THE TOP

Get the ultimate CD collection with the best dance music competition, ever!



**Chemical Brothers**  
Exit Planet Dust

**DANCE ALBUMS**  
...OF ALL TIME

Imagine having a dance music CD collection that's the envy of the whole world: 50 of the best dance albums of all time! It's yours if you win this, thanks to Virgin Megastores.

All you have to do is collect three vouchers like the one below from the next three issues of Muzik. Fill them in, send them to us and you'll go into the draw for the list of albums we featured in our February issue.

One person will get the ultimate CD collection. Get on it!

### Send your form to:

Virgin Megastores Top 50, Sophie Towers, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

\*Okay, YOU try sourcing all 50 albums from the ultimate dance music archive. It's a nightmare. We can't get some of them because they've been deleted, but what we can give you is 47 of them and vouchers for another 3 so you can put your own finishing

touch to the list. What was missed out? As long as it's available from Virgin Megastores' extensive archive, it's yours!



### MUZIK TOP 50 COMPETITION 2002

Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss etc) \_\_\_\_\_

Forename \_\_\_\_\_

Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

UK Telephone Number (include STD code) Foreign Telephone Number (ONLY complete if UK telephone number is not available) \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address Postcode (if UK Address) \_\_\_\_\_

Country (if overseas address - complete in full) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (dd/mm/ccyy eg: 01/03/1968) \_\_\_\_\_



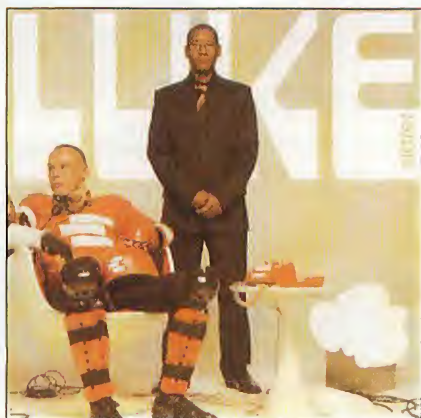
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**BT**  
I'ma

**Soul II Soul**  
Club Classics Vol. 1

**DJ Shadow**  
Endroducing

**Aphex Twin**  
Selected Ambient  
Works 85-92



### LUKE SLATER

#### Alright On Top

- Techno master Luke Slater delivers a new album of superb electro pop
- The new material has recieved nothing less than ecstatic responses from all sections of the dance and pop press
- "Fabulously stylish...truly great pop" (Ministry)

WHATEVER TURNS YOU ON



STEREO LAB

## DERRICK L CARTER

What are you listening to?

### Last album bought?

"De La Soul's latest album, 'AOI: Bionix'. It's excellent!"

### First album bought?

"I remember getting Rick James' first album for my ninth birthday. I used to listen to it in the dining room on Sunday mornings before church."

### Your most valuable piece of vinyl?

"TSOB' by Mikey D & Master J - an old disco rap tune from 1979 or '80, and one the dopest records ever made."

### In-car listening?

"I made a compilation to listen to in the car in the summer that's got everything from Louis Prima and Rotary

words DAVE JUPP



Rick James: Ideal pre-church listening

Connection through to Al Jarreau and Bill Withers. All good summer time stuff. And I made a CD with a lot of Liquid Liquid and ESG. It's funky punk: that Eighties, downtown New York sound. You get a warrior

feeling, riding through the city, thinking, 'Weez gonna kick some ass!'"

### What tune turns you off?

"I hate the fucking 'Mash' theme song ['Suicide Is Painless']."

### Best record ever?

"Oh my gosh! Er, 'Sing Sing Sing' by The Breads. It's a Forties big band cover of the Louis Prima song. Really good harmonies, excellent arrangement, and it's got this weird Eighties beat."

### Which record in your box is going to be massive?

"The first track on the Igloo One white label. It's very wicked."

### What's the last seven-inch you played?

"A Bjorn Torske record with all this Bollywood music on it, on Tellé. It's freaky."

### What are you looking forward to hearing?

"My new artist album! You can expect a lot of madness from that."

### Surprise us with a record you like...

"Toploader's 'Dancing In The Moonlight'!" [Proceeds to sing it].

Derrick's 'About Now' mix CD (his first in five years) is out on March 18th on React/System



Toploader: Twats

6 OF THE BEST...

## RETRO TRAINERS



Adidas: £55  
Black & white Pro-shells



Puma: £70  
Red & white leather



Vans: £40  
Flame-licked suede toes



Gola: £45  
Navy red leather



Ludwig Reiter Sport: £95  
Blue & burgundy suede



Kickers: £59.95  
Chocolate leather, tan suede

Kickers: 020-8970-2342 Vans: 020-8877-9907 Puma: 01372-360-255 Gola: 01706-211-111 Adidas: 0161-419-2870 Ludwig Reiter Sport: 020-7761-1000

Fashion compiled by HELEN JENNINGS

### NEWS IN BRIEF

The latest offering from **Angie Stone** is 'Wish I Didn't Miss You'. Out May 27th, it's the second single from 'Mahogany Soul' and

is an original take on the O'Jays' classic 'Back Stabbers'. . . **Cream** are celebrating their 10th anniversary big style,

bringing out a special series of CDs entitled 'Creamcollect'. The first collects together trance anthems, the second Balearic. Look out for their

Punta Del Este



other series too - they're bigging up their global beach bars, with the 'Cream En El Mar' series. First stop? 'Punta Del Este'...

# **X-PRESS 2 MUZIKIZUM APRIL 22**

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# Six Of The Best



**FREAKABOOM**

**VARIOUS  
BOOMTRONICS**

**2 x cd**  
**08\_04\_02**

The debut compilation for this cutting-edge, London-based breaks label, putting Freakaboom on an entirely new level. Exclusive tracks, remixes, vital past releases and new signings for 2002. Featuring 2Sinners, Koma + Bones, Phantom Beats, Kraymon, Databass, Subtropic, Hedrock Valley Beats, Switchshift, and more.... Includes Multimedia content and a 'Beats & Samples' section for producers. A must have.

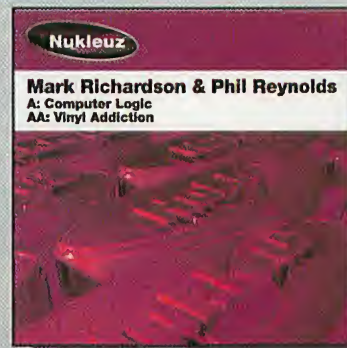


**BROTHER BROWN**

**ORANGE  
REMEMBER ME**

**12"**  
**08\_04\_02**

Yet another fantastic production from Brother Brown Records. Orange's 'Remember Me', has been strongly supported by DJs such as Satoshi Tomii, John Digweed, Sasha and Roger Sanchez. Includes Brother Brown's twisted vocal mix that takes you on a mystery trip to paradise. Orange has climbed the underground charts for the last couple of months with this and the track was rated 5/5 in the last edition of Muzik.



**NUKLEUZ**

**RICHARDSON & REYNOLDS  
COMPUTER LOGIC**

**12"**  
**08\_04\_02**

'Hard Drive', Mark Richardson's first ever release, was one of the best selling Nukleuz releases in 2002 and by joining forces with the undisputed king of hard trance his profile is now set to go through the roof. Phil Reynolds brings an essential knowledge of the dancefloor to the studio and that's why this Nukleuz release is dynamite to your ears. Massive with Anne Savage, Nick Sentience and an end of the night anthem for Phil himself, this is hopefully only the first outing of many for this tag team! Watch this space.



**12" THUMPERS**

**VARIOUS  
12" THUMPERS DIGITAL**

**2 x cd**  
**22\_04\_02**

12 Inch Thumpers have gone back to the original masters and made two 74-minute mixed CDs, which are totally different from the original tracks. The album also includes a selection of unreleased tracks which are not available in the shops as vinyl. Thumpers Digital features 23 thumpin' tracks by 12 Inch Thumpers, Paul Glazby, Jason Nawty, Frisky, Vinyl Coup, D.S.P. (Dom Sweeten), John Whiteman, Moli D, Ilogik, Sam Reeve & U.H.T.

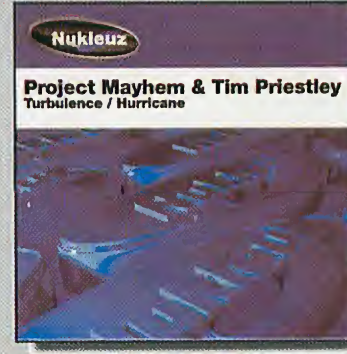


**SURROUND SOUNDS**

**RED MOON  
LUCKY**

**cd / lp**  
**22\_04\_02**

This is the 3rd album for Surround Sounds and the debut from Red Moon. It bears testament to the immense talents of Roger Watson (Loaded) and Tony Thomas (Soma). A collection of stunning tracks that vary from the tough tribal beats of 'Esther The Whore' to the ambient flow of 'Gliding' through to the breaky-techy opener 'Rising'. Support comes from X-Press 2 and Sasha to name but a few. Call it tech house or whatever you want, Red Moon are one funk-fuelled fireball just waiting to explode worldwide.



**NUKLEUZ**

**PROJECT MAYHEM & TIM PRIESTLY  
TURBULENCE / HURRICANE**

**12"**  
**29\_04\_02**

Having released the fiercest hard house record in Nukleuz Blue's four year history, Tim Priestley returns with Project Mayhem, a new Brighton-based production team to unleash the next installment. 'Turbulence' and 'Hurricane' pack the punch of Tyson and have the attitude to match. Massive on the hardest floors around and given full support from tastemakers such as Andy Farley, Ian M, Ed Real and BK, this double whammy lets the scene know that Nukleuz can knock heads with the best of them!

available from all discerning record stores

## Amato Distribution

All these releases can be heard online at [www.amatodistribution.co.uk](http://www.amatodistribution.co.uk)

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# SINGLE MINDED

Gently patting the buttocks of the new releases and applying the ointment of opinion



**HIT**

## MOBY

We Are All Made Of Stars (Mute)

Moby: "I'd spent a couple of months fine-tuning the songs from '18', so one evening I thought I'd write something new. It was very much an afterthought that developed into something more significant." Anthemic it certainly is, but it's also as bombastic as George Bush, and almost as grating. Timo Maas, DJ Tiesto and Bob Sinclar fail to turn pop-rock base metal into dancefloor gold.

★ ★ Chart prediction: No. 13



**HIP HIT**

## DOVES

There Goes The Fear (Heavenly)

Like the last 12 years never happened, the Doves fly back with the best seven minutes the Stone Roses never wrote. "We used to be Sub Sub," says singer Jimmy Goodwin, "so how could we forget our dance sensibilities?" This is the most euphoric slice of new baggy ever to employ martial drumming and borrow the harmonies from Steve Harley's 'Come Up And See Me (Make Me Smile)'. We like.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Chart prediction: No. 6



**COLLECTOR'S CORNER**

## MASSIVE ATTACK AND MOS DEF

I Against I (Melankolic)

It's on the soundtrack to Blade 2, but there are only 300 copies of this 12-inch in circulation, and just 100 in Britain. The lyrics may be more to do with vampire-killing than political unrest, but there's an overall sense of large scale menace, from sinister clicking beats through great swathes of minor key bass to Mos Def's strident rap.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Chart prediction: n/a



## ROMANTHONY

Never Fuck (Virgin)

Sweary electro-house filth, in which Romanthony and a lucky (and very vocal) lady make the beast with two backs. Paul Van Dyk, Futureshock and Jan Driver add 4/4 oomph to an already fierce and feisty package.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Chart prediction: No. 50 (too rude to go higher)



## BERTRAND BURGALAT

Bertrand Meets Bertrand

(Tricatel)

Five tracks of perfect pop from the French 'genius', including a new version of 'Sunshine Yellow' and a Tommy Hoofs remix. Think Sunday Best

entertaining the crowd at the Big Chill at Eastnor Castle (that's in Herefordshire, kids).

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Chart prediction: None, sadly



## KOSHEEN

Hungry (Arista/Moksha)

'Slip 'N' Slide

Suicide' and 'Hide U' are cool, but this array of mixes from Satoshi Tomiie, Tiesto, Zed Bias, Bent, Decoder and Technical Itch only adds varying degrees of over-polished bombast to Kosheen's canon.

★ ★

Chart prediction: No. 18



## MÚM

Green Grass Of Tunnel (Fat Cat)

What are they on about? Who knows? But judging by this taster, the forthcoming album

from Iceland's premier recording unit with twins in it trading in sweet electronica should be everything Boards Of Canada's album should have been but wasn't. And with additional candy-sweet female voices, too.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Chart prediction: A big seller in Independent record shops



## TIMO MAAS

Shifter (Perfecto)

Featuring

teasing vocals by female MC Chickaboo, the latest from the man who would be Fatboy Slim also receives remixes from Scanty and Roger Sanchez, both of whom add 4/4 impetus to his frothing, funky breaks concoction.

★ ★ ★

Chart prediction: No. 27



## ANGIE STONE

Wish I Didn't

Miss You

(Arista)

Very much in the Premier League of 21st century soul divas, Ms Stone here pilfers large chunks of the O'Jays' 'Backstabbers' to muster up a memorable, hummable love song. The house mixes by Hex Hector and the Pound Boys manage to cheerfully retain the song yet up the funky ante.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Chart prediction: No. 10



## CHEMICAL BROTHERS

Come With Us

(Virgin)

Third single and title track from the Chems' new album becomes a rampaging four-to-the-floor bass-blowing nasty in

the hands of Norman Cook. There's also a so-so, if pleasingly visceral, bonus track exclusive to the single called 'HIA'.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Chart prediction: 21



## SHAKEDOWN

At Night (Naive)

This will eventually be re-released by Defected with mixes by Mousse T and Alan Braxe, but for the moment, the original's tipping-a-hat-to-the-Eighties dancefloor stomp and upbeat female vocal, replete with electro stutter effect, will do very nicely.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Chart prediction: No. 30 (upon Defected re-release)

## CHART PREDICTION CORNER

This is the monthly space where you get to throw eggs at us if our oh-so-prophetic chart foresight proves slightly off

the mark. Unfortunately, since we only started gazing into our balls last month, a number of our predictions have yet to receive full

release, so you'll have to wait until next month to find out if Shy FX and X-Press 2 & David Byrne reach Number 15 (we now reckon they'll go higher,

as it goes). For the rest - we said Minimalistix's 'Close Cover' would reach 18, and it went to 12. Depeche Mode, however, had a midweek of

our predicted 33 when Mute announced it was 'chart ineligible' (we reckon they didn't like the mighty Mode in so low!). Not bad, eh?

## The Scouse house don's monthly manoeuvres

Then it was back to my Cream residency. I know people are dissing the club at

A vintage, slightly faded color photograph of a man standing on a sandy beach. He is wearing a white t-shirt and dark shorts, and is holding a long, thin object, possibly a surfboard or a long stick, vertically. The ocean is visible in the background, with a few other people standing further away on the right side. The photo has a white border and is tilted slightly to the right.

I stayed a few days with them then went back to Cairo and went to the Pyramids. They were absolutely mind boggling. There are no words

The next leg was the real killer. I flew back to Britain, went through all the week's records and went straight to a Bristol gig, then dashed back to play Basics and the Vibe bar in Leeds. Both were fun, as always. When I finally got home I apologised to my bed for neglecting her. I'm making up for it as we speak.

Young.

**1) Rob Long** The Bass Goes Home (Dub)  
Out of Coccoluto's label from Italy. Devastating!

**2) Josh Wink** Freak (Ovum)  
Finally getting a full release, and not a moment too soon, I might add! Sick shit.

**3) Angry Mexican DJs** Rock Dior (10,000 BC Mixes)  
(Palm Pictures)  
Me and Woolford doing the do. Morning!

**4) Pilgrims Of The Mind**  
Amazonian Street Life  
(Active Pass)  
Warm and soulful with a bit of bite, this one still jacks.

**5) Swirl People** 'Messing Around' (Lowdown)  
This just chugs, but it's cool.

**6) Armand Van Helden**  
Chocolate Covered Cherry (Armed)  
Another Armand classic!

**7) East Coast Boogie Men**  
Upside Ya Head (Brique Rouge)  
Davis Duriez's label kicks out yet another quality cut.

**8) CZR Featuring Alexander East** Take Me Higher (Moody)  
Alexander's voice is so beautiful. It's nice to have a decent vocal in my box.

**9) Chris Lum** Yeah!  
(Multitracked)  
Lum The Drum on form again with this Eighties-sounding good time track.

**10) Deep Night Noise** 5 AM (Dub) (Subliminal Soul)  
Cool, straight-up house.

**O**n May 3rd you can pick up Nintendo's latest games machine, the Gamecube (the smallest home games machine yet), and play some of the most bizarre games ever. *Pikmin* puts you in control of spaceship-building flowers, while *Super Monkey Ball* allows you to steer monkeys around (in balls). Other launch games include *Luigi's Mansion*, *Tony Hawks 3*, *Sonic Adventure 2* (yes, Sega's hedgehog) and *Wave Race Blue Storm* (a super-realistic jetski job).

**COMING DOWN:** Unlike the PS2 and X-Box, it doesn't play DVDs.

**Luke Slater**

"This boy sat on my doorstep for two weeks, pushing love letters and sweets through my letterbox. I didn't eat the sweets"

**Trade's celebrity stalkee Malcolm Duffy**

# luke slater alright on top

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[www.lukeslater.com](http://www.lukeslater.com)  
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modern album'

**The Face**

'More than Alright'

**Sleazeneration**

'Slater always seems  
to pull out the stops'

**Mixmag**

'Album of the month'

**Ministry**

## Live dates - April

10th 93 Feet East

18th Academy 2

19th Fiddlers

20th Glasgow School of Art

21st The Leadmill

23rd Zap Club

24th University

25th The Cockpit

26th Tribal Sessions

27th Triptych - Forum

28th Triptych - The Venue

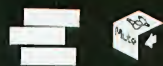
## May

3rd Dublin Music Centre

4th Shine

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Glasgow	0141 339 8383
Sheffield	0845 300 4050
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Newcastle	0191 261 2606
Leeds	0113 245 5570
Manchester	0161 832 1111
Aberdeen	0870 220 1116
Edinburgh	0870 220 1116

Dublin	sl 189092 5100
Belfast	02890 323 744



# LUKE

slater



EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION!

# HED KANDI WANTS YOU!

Win the chance to have YOUR track on a Hed Kandi compilation!

**D**o you write your own music? Then read on...

Hed Kandi, set up in 1999 by DJ and A&R man Mark Doyle, is a label that always delivers an eclectic range of the most sought-after house music - from chilled beats to disco grooves. And this summer, one lucky Muzik reader could see their very own track on one of Hed Kandi's prestigious 'Beach House' CDs - renowned for their deep, sexy grooves.

Mark, who'll pick the winner himself, says of Muzik's exclusive competition,

"anything that makes it onto a Kandi compilation has to be pretty special. We're looking for a cool deep house track that sums up the summer."

"Remember, though entering this competition means your track will get a listen, it'll have to be special to stand out from the crowd. Just keep it happy and uplifting - big tracks for us last year were Axus' 'Peace And Love And Happiness', Petalpusher's 'Rely On Me' and Fac 15's 'Twisted By The Pool'. A top tip: the secret to a Kandi track is great production and a great hook or vocal!"

To enter, just write a track

that you think would sit well on one of Hed Kandi's 'Beach House' CDs, then send it to Mark Doyle, MUZIK COMPETITION!, Hed Kandi, c/o Jazz FM, 26-27 Castlereagh Street, London W1H 6DJ, before May 27th. The track should be six to nine minutes long and should be on either CD or MiniDisc. Don't forget to enclose your name, address, a short CV, a photo and a phone number if possible. Mark will then pick the winner - meaning your work could be on one of the summer's best compilation albums: 'Beach House'. Good luck!



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# Hed Kandi

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EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION

# WIN HOMELANDS TICKETS AND BACARDI FESTIVAL PACKS!

**C**ome June 1st, Homelands will once again be rocking the Matterley Bowl in Hampshire – and you probably know by now that the storming line-up includes headliners Basement Jaxx alongside other live acts including Layo & Bushwacka! (their live debut), Soft Cell, Zero 7 and Roots Manuva. There's also a host of DJs, including Carl Cox, Sasha & Digweed, Gilles Peterson and Kruder & Dorfmeister.

The Bacardi BBar also makes a welcome return to Homelands 2002, with Bacardi rum cocktails, the best bar staff in the UK, and top beats from Matthias Heilbronn (Wave NYC), Stuart Patterson (Barrio), Phil Asher (Restless Soul), and Basil Isaac (Black II Basic, live percussion).

This year, Homelands and Bacardi are offering five lucky Muzik readers five pairs of tickets as well

as 10 festival packs, which include drinks tickets for the Bacardi BBar plus 10 bottles of Bacardi Rum, CDs, hats, T-shirts. . . Even a raincoat, just in case.

To enter, simply answer this: Which double act will be playing their debut live performance this year at Homelands?

- a) Kruder & Dorfmeister
- b) Layo & Bushwacka!
- c) Sasha & Digweed.

Send your answer on a postcard with your name and address before May 10th to Homelands & Bacardi Competition! Muzik, c/o Sophie Towers, IPC Ignite! Kings Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.

Tickets can still be purchased via [www.meanfiddler.com](http://www.meanfiddler.com) or 08701-500-044 (24hrs) calls

charged at national rate. Tickets £49.00 adv (subject to booking fee and conditions).



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# to Ver

DJ TIESTO • PUSH • RIVA • MARCO V • RIVA • MAURO PICOTTO • LIQUID STATE



## HOMELANDS THE STORY

### 1999

Mean Fiddler and Darren Hughes join forces to create Homelands at Matterley Bowl, Hampshire. Sets by

the Chemical Brothers, Faithless, Laurent Garnier and Fatboy Slim kick off the last summer of the millennium in style.



### 2000

The heaviest rain for centuries doesn't stop 10,000 dripping wet loons from going completely

bonkers when Fonty plays the R1 stage. Public Enemy also rock out, though Flava Flav thinks he's playing a festival for the homeless.

# WELCOME HOMELANDS

Summer's here! Get your **Homelands** tickets and get dancing!



**A**h, Homelands. Since the UK's best dance festival first kicked off in 1999, Homelands has grown bigger and better with every passing year. Now it's the 02 and, once again, time for the party that starts everyone's summer. So at 1pm on Saturday, June 1st, Hampshire's Matterley Bowl will fill up with 50,000 party animals determined to contribute to 17 hours of utter carnage.

Homelands 2002 will play host to the world's best live acts and DJs. Headlining the Muzik Live Arena are Basement Jaxx, supported by Soft Cell, The Beta Band, Roger Sanchez and Stanton Warriors. The 10 other stages will host the cream of dance music talent from Sasha, Mr C, Roots Manuva and Erick Morillo to X-Press 2, Zero 7, Carl Cox and a host of Radio 1 DJs – all rocking the Bowl until 6am on Sunday. How foolish would you be to miss it?

For tickets and details on Homelands 2002, go to [www.homelands.co.uk](http://www.homelands.co.uk), [www.meanfiddler.com](http://www.meanfiddler.com), or [www.ticketmaster.co.uk](http://www.ticketmaster.co.uk). Tickets are also available from Ticketmaster outlets in selected Virgin stores, Tower Records and Waitrose stores nationwide.

## MEET MUZIK!

From facts to funk, we'll give you what you're looking for. . .

- Muzik's Information Booth. Not only can you find out where your favourite acts are playing, but we'll give you insider info on the tunes you've just heard.
- The cloakroom. You might win a prize from Muzik, as your cloakroom ticket doubles as a raffle ticket. There'll be some great music playing in here, too.
- The Muzik Live Arena. The main arena and THE place to be on the day. We'll save you a good spot, promise.

## SEE YOU DOWN THE FRONT!

Some of the artists and DJs who'll be at Homelands 2002. . .



**DAVE BALL AND MARC ALMOND OF SOFT CELL**

### Ever been to Homelands before?

Dave: "No, though I went to a few festivals years ago with The Grid, and the atmosphere's always great."

Marc: "I'm expecting a really electric atmosphere. Everyone's in thrall to the elements, but that's the fun of it."

### Who will you check out?

Marc: "As many people as possible. I worked with Ferry Corsten last year, so it'll be nice to check him out, say hello."

### What will you play?

Dave: "It's about balance. We don't want to deny our past – obviously we'll play old popular stuff, but we don't want to overlook the present."

Marc: "The new album's quintessential Soft Cell, but it's got tough beats, a tougher edge, but I'm sure we'll slide 'Tainted Love' in there somewhere."

### What will you wear?

Marc: "Trademark black, and as little as possible – I like to get very sweaty on stage. I might bring some wellies as a precaution, but I'm hoping it's going to be one of those balmy summer evenings."

### How messy will it get?

Marc: "I usually get quite messy, but I can't speak for anyone else." Dave: (Giggles) "I'll see how I feel on the day!"



**CARL COX**  
Best Homelands memory?

"When it poured – it was the worst rainfall in 250

years. In the VIP area, people were wearing Tesco bags on their feet and dancing on the tables. There was a canopy over the DJ box in the arena – not for the rain, but for the condensation – which we had to keep emptying! Darren Emerson and I played together instead of back to back, and because conditions were so bad, everyone went absolutely mental. It was fun."

### What about Homelands 2002?

"I'm on the Radio 1 stage for the first time, and it's a long time since Radio 1 listeners have heard me live. Every time I play Homelands I play for The End or whoever, but this time it's for Carl Cox. I'm going to represent me."

### What will you play?

"A track called 'Pontapé', which means 'kick' in Brazilian. Also 'Bang Beater', which is off my new album and is going down a storm."

### Who will you check out?

"I've never seen Soft Cell live, or The Beta Band. The Muzik tent sounds like the one to go to!"

### What will you wear?

(Laughs) "My silver techno trousers that I love! And doubtless some promotional T-shirt."

### How messy will it be?

"It all depends how long I'm there for. I may have to leave early as I'm going to Ibiza for the Space opening."



**GILLES PETERSON**  
Best Homelands memory?

"I normally do the B Bar and

that's really cosy, really good sound. Last year St Germain played at about four in the morning, which was interesting."

### Happy about having your own arena?

"It's great! I'm really pleased with the line up. Everyone we asked was really up for it. It's a bit odd for the kind of scene I represent to be at an event like that on such a big scale."

### Who's playing?

"Zero 7, of course. There's also Jazzanova (my favourite of the new generation of producer DJs), Anti Pop Consortium, Cinematic Orchestra, Kruder & Dorfmeister and the Gotan Project. I just want to put on a good show: it's a great opportunity to put on really great bands. It's my gig, baby!"

### Who will you check out?

"I'll be checking out the End tent and all the drum & bass stuff."

### Will you be going on the funfair?

"I'm thinking of setting up my own fondue stall. We've got quite a few Germans and Austrians playing so it'll be pretty popular. Much like Asterix in Switzerland, you know."

### What will you wear?

"A Swiss riding outfit. And a bobble hat."

### How messy will it get?

"Ridiculously messy. Close to chaos. Between chaos and revolution."

## 2001

Fergie plays a monstrous set as the sun goes down, while Danny Tenaglia keeps the VIP area flying with a

rather tasty six-hour stint on the decks. Pulp pull a full house with an excellent set that includes remixes of some of their classics.

## 2002

Muzik climb on board the Homelands bus, but who will burn it up this year? You'll have to be there to find out. . .



THE MUZIK RANDOM QUESTION GENERATOR

# Q&A BARRY ASHWORTH

You e-mailed, postcarded and texted us your questions. We added a few of our own. The Dub Pistols main man, club promoter, ligger extraordinaire and Iggy Pop lookalike answered them. Simple, huh?

## What's been your best recent studio moment?

(Noel Curry, Ballymena)

"Probably over in Mexico at the beginning of last year. I was working on the soundtrack for a film called *Y Tu Mama, Tambien* (And You, Mama, As Well), which is all about the Mexican middle classes shagging each other and taking drugs. We wrote this song which was totally tongue in cheek, and went into a studio in Mexico City with this group called Molotov. They're one of the biggest selling bands in South America and they're absolutely fucking mental. We got 100 of their mates in this studio, all with big smiles on their faces, singing, 'Here comes the mayo! Shake my macana, mama!' which is all about having a wank. We were crying, it was so funny. We were also doing opium while we were in there, which probably helped."

## Who do you trust?

(Eleanor Moore, Islington)

"I've been turned over that many times in my life, I'd say just a couple of friends and family. If you can find three friends you can trust then you're lucky."

## Your house is on fire. Which single item do you rescue?

"Argh! All my records! My equipment. . . Just one thing? Well I'd better say my brother, seeing as he lives with me."

## Can you play any instruments?

(Neil Hedger, Scotland)

"Drums, a bit of guitar, decks. . ."

## Are decks an instrument?

"Oh, definitely. But I still have keyboard and guitar lessons whenever I'm back home in London. I bought an acoustic guitar that I practice on all the time. I'm always trying to learn."

## What's the latest piece of vinyl you paid cash for?

"An Inland Knights record on 20:20 Vision. I spend about £100 a week on records, because though I do get sent stuff, a lot of it isn't quite what you want to play. I don't understand DJs who just play the records they get sent. You've got to search for your own sound."

## What's next with your record label, Ugly?

Well, last year I spent seven months touring so it tailed off, but me and my business partner are gearing up again now. Personally speaking, I've gone back to experimentation and making a record in a couple of days instead of 10. It's wicked, though – really fresh stuff."

## Seen any good films lately?

(Nick Savvas, Old Trafford)

"I saw *Lord Of The Rings* and I loved it. It was the first book I read that I wasn't forced to read at school. In fact, me and my Naked Lunch [*one of Barry's old clubs*] mates were always referred to as 'hobbits'. [*In a convincing hobbit falsetto*]: 'It cuts, it burns, it freezes!'"

## I've read that back in the day you made a special trip to the Brixton riots. Have you ever thrown a petrol bomb?

(William Sorrell, Highgate)

"A Molotov cocktail? Yes. I shouldn't get into it here, really, but I was an arsonist. As a schoolkid I'd go up to where the Great Fire of London started because I was fascinated. I spent all my money on Swan Vestas and I used to come home smelling of fire. Me and my brother were always coming home with black faces. I set fire to my family home three times."

## Wasn't your mum annoyed?

"Oh yeah. I used to get 10 bells beaten out of me."

## Did you ever set fire to your school?

"If I did, I'm not gonna tell you, am I?"

## Didn't you go to school with Carl Cox?

(Bob, Bristol)

"Yeah. Carl was our local DJ and totally the best (the others being Paul Oakenfold and Trevor Fung). He played at all the parties for us – he was a god in our area, no shadow of a doubt. He's the most down to earth, lovely bloke. A gentle giant."

## What's the biggest mistake you've made?

(Chris Hogg, Bournemouth)

"I've made loads! [*Long pause*]. I suppose it was causing a club I was running to become a riot. The owners were wankers and security had beaten up one of my friends, so we turned off the music and told everyone 'that stinks'. Everyone then smashed the place up. In hindsight, that was a mistake."

## How much weed do you smoke on an average day?

(Al Harper, Brixton)

"Too much. Half my memory's gone. I find time and space really hard to grasp now, like how long ago things were. Everything seems so fresh, yet everything seems so vague. But it's the only thing that calms me down – otherwise I can't sit still, can't do anything."

## Are you in love?

"No. I have been, though. Twice."

## Will you be again?

"Dunno. That's a question I've asked myself for years. When it's the first time, when you're a young man, you fall in love naively, and you get burnt. I think if you fall in love more than three or four times in your life you're a very lucky person. But you definitely learn every time it happens. You learn a true respect for love and how to give love back."

## Do you have any hobbies?

(Jon Stockwood, San Jose, California)

"Nah. I'm a workaholic. But I used to be into football, I played pro up to the age of 22 for Chelsea and Wimbledon. I ended up playing in the Vauxhall Open League. Then I broke my ankle, spent two months out, and in the first week back I broke the other ankle. So I went to Ibiza to recuperate. That was the first time I ever took a pill."

## Top buzz?

"Oh yeah. It sounds corny, but back then, when you took pills, all you felt was love. At that stage I was a south London council estate boy, very territorial, just playing football and getting into fights every week. Then I went to Ibiza in 1987 and I thought I could change the world and bring peace. It was 10 years till I kicked a football again, and nearly as long before I threw another punch. A textbook conversion!"

## What would you die for?

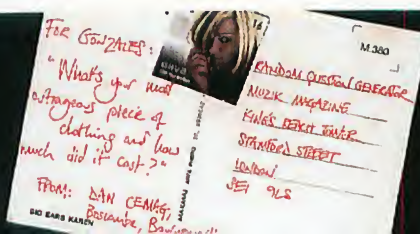
"Family and love."

The new Dub Pistols album *'Six Million Ways To Live'* (Hard Hands) is out at the end of May, while the single 'Problem Is' (with guest vocalist Terry Hall) is out mid-May. Barry's new club night *The Truth* is on every Sunday afternoon, upstairs at *The Paradise*, Kensal Green, West London. Special guests will be a major feature, so we hear. . .

PHOTO JAMIE BEEDEN

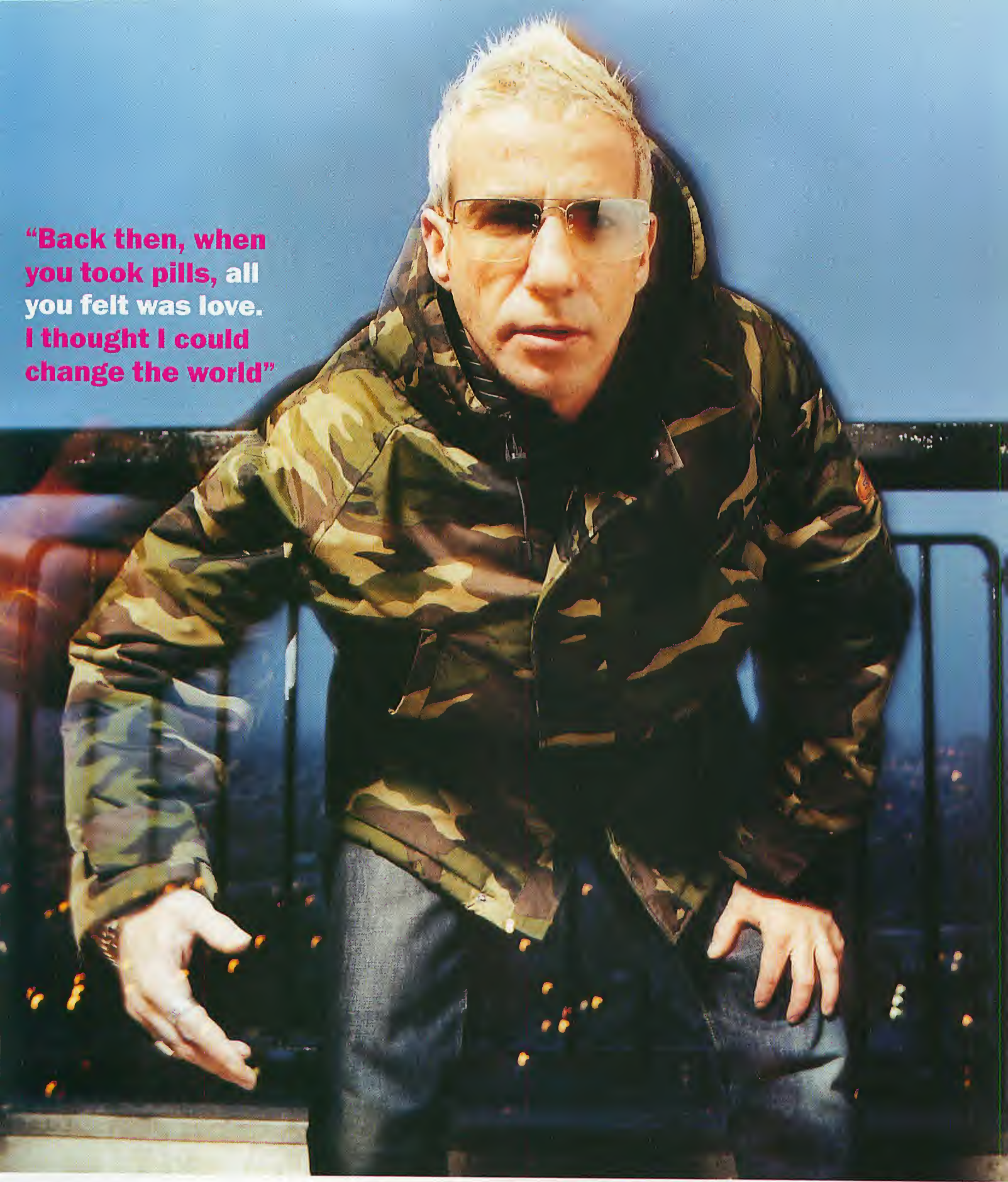
GET YOUR  
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ON Q&A!

Come on – become a vital cog  
in the great machine known  
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Question Generator.



Do you demand to know what your favourite artists are eating/drinking/having rubbed into their porcelain skin by busty wenches? Of course you do. And now's your chance to find out – while bagging a free copy of the

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you took pills, all  
you felt was love.  
I thought I could  
change the world"**



best magazine in the world. Simply send us your questions via e-mail to [muzik@ipcmedia.com](mailto:muzik@ipcmedia.com); on a postcard to Muzik Random Question Generator, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street,

London SE1 9LS or by txt msg to 07732-169-179. You can make the question as random as you like (that's why it's called Random Question Generator) but don't forget

to mention who the question is for. All questions answered will be credited, and you'll get your next issue of Muzik gratis. That's a good offer by anyone's standards, eh?

**NEXT  
MONTH:  
Gonzales**





Medicine™

• **Shoreditch** •

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- Friday April 5th** Riton (Grand Central) • David Phillips (Pacha, Rock Bar - Ibiza)  
**Saturday April 6th** "Wobble" with Phil Gifford & Si Long • Found Sounds  
**Friday April 12th** Pete Reilly (Soul Jazz Records) • Dusty Promos  
**Saturday April 13th**  
Beano with Subway Tracks • Idjut Boys (A Nuphonic extravaganza)  
**Friday April 19th** Eddie Temple-Morris (XFM) • Done & Dusted  
**Saturday April 20th** Rocky • Chris Midas (Strictly Rhythm) • Afro Jo  
**Friday April 26th** Fila Brazillia (5 hour DJ set) • Funkshoppe  
**Saturday April 27th** Wah Wah 45's (Dom Servini • Simon Goss)  
Excess Decks Presents: James Atkin (EMF) • awayTeam  
Wired Hi Fi (Richard Norris & Andy Chatterley) • Craig Campbell (Infrasound)  
**Friday May 3rd** Eclectic Breaks with The Mixologists  
**Saturday May 4th** Bill Brewster (Faith/Fabric) • Leo Elstob (SoulSonic)  
Grant Hutchinson • Andy Harland  
**Thursday May 9th** Fat City Present Recordings Presents: "45 Kings"  
*friends and family session. DJ's Ashley Beedle, Colin Curtis, Martin Brew (J walk) & Christian McBride*  
**Friday May 10th** Adam Regan (Left Foot-Different Drummer) • Dusty Promos  
**Saturday May 11th** Beano with Subway Trax (Nuphonic) • Sean PEE (Kiss FM)  
**Friday May 17th** Ali B (Fabric) • Done & Dusted  
**Saturday May 18th**  
Keb Darge (Ledgeary Deep Funk - 4 hour set) • Rob Wheeler • Sean Rowley (All Back To Mine)  
**Friday May 24th** Norman Jay • Funk Shoppe  
**Saturday May 25th** Daddy G (Wild Bunch Bristol) • Richard Maraviglia & Rob Harris  
**Friday May 31st** Distinctive Records Party • Hybrid • Richard Ford • Ashley Cassel

**Opening Hours**

Mon. - Tue.: 12 noon - 12 midnight • Wed. - Thur.: 12 noon - 1.00am  
Friday: 12 noon - 2.00am  
Saturday: 12 noon - 2.00am • Sunday: 12 noon - 11.00pm  
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# Talent

THE BEST IN DANCE

## GEMMA HAYES

Irish singer-songwriter, 24, into nature and folk music. Has guitar, will travel

**G**emma Hayes went missing around midday one Friday. Ignoring her responsibilities at work, she took the first available train from London's Victoria Station and found herself in a quiet hotel in the heart of Dorset. The lengths some people go for a bit of headspace, eh?

Was she, in the best folkie tradition, scanning the hedgerows for her muse?

"No! I was watching TV!", laughs the just-turned-24 year-old. "People think I walk the fields with an acoustic guitar, but I'm inspired by day-to-day nature, not the kind you have to leave your daily life in order to find."

The singer/songwriter was raised in the tiny village of Ballyporeen in Tipperary, Ireland, though she's now Dublin-based. Her music has the kind of pastoral charm that would make Dr Alex Paterson weep into his crop circle, but her debut EP, '4.35 AM' is also imbued with an edgy melancholia reminiscent of Saint Etienne.

Beth Orton comparisons notwithstanding, we predict she'll be the excuse The

Chemical Brothers need to try out a new vocalist. In the meantime, she's supported labelmates Turin Breaks and chill klings Zero 7.

"Zero 7 are nice but they look about 19," she giggles, "and they're really small!"

Hayes' forthcoming album 'Night On My Side' veers from angry rock to acoustic songs like 'I Wanna Stay.'

**"People think I walk the fields with an acoustic guitar"**

"The album's schizophrenic," she nods. "It starts off really energetic and then falls away."

Not surprisingly, Gemma says she writes more eloquently once night has fallen.

"You have a sense that there's more space around," she smiles, "and a little bit more of the world can be yours for an hour or two."

'Night On My Side' is out May 6th on Source

### GEMMA HAYES

WHAT'S THE SKINNY?

- She's The New Beth Orton™
- She hails from Tipperary
- She writes all her own material and thinks Zero 7 are "small"

**Favourite artist:** Tom Waits

**Favourite album:** My Bloody Valentine's 'Loveless'

**Favourite movie:** "Rushmore with Bill Murray. It's a black comedy from the late Nineties"

photo GEMMA BOOTH

**"I've never had a day job but I have done a lot of bum gigs"**

# 16th ELEMENT

Australia's dark 'n' dirty houser is no longer available for weddings

**“**I had one too many brandies last night,” whimpers budding producer/DJ 16th Element, aka Kam Denny, down a crackling phone line from his native Australia. It's the wee small hours here but over in Oz, Kam's just got up. He was up late last night, getting tipsy with his mum and dad. Acid house party mayhem or what?

"I'm normally nocturnal," he chuckles, "but I'm staying with my parents, so I have to behave myself."

Born and bred in Victoria, Kam first got a taste for dance music from well-worn bootlegs.

"My friend's cousin was a DJ, and I'd copy tapes off him. Then I started to buy my own tunes."

He was soon on an aural diet of Kraftwerk and synth gurus/twats Jean-Michel Jarre and Rick Wakeman, with a bit of James Brown thrown in for good measure. Having acquired his first keyboard at 15, a Casio SK1 with a half-second sampler ("It was fantastic, you could burp into it and make all sorts of great sounds") his first material was released in 1996 as one half of Krank (a burp-free funky house duo). He's been making a living from music ever since, one way or another.

"I've never had a proper day job, but I have done a lot of bum gigs," he says ruefully. "Plenty of 21st birthday parties and one or two weddings."

His demo caught the attention of Melbourne's Vicious Grooves label early last year, and the resulting double A-side ('Warp'/'Well Strung') was picked up by Morillo, Sanchez and Rampling for its druggy strings and tribal drive.

Now licensed to Loaded in the UK, the buzz on the tracks is set to spread still further. X-Press 2 have remixed 'Warp' for its UK release. Kam's returned the favour, working his dark magic on their new single 'Lazy': "It's an amazing track, but very polished, so I've dubbed it up and made it into more of a banging dancefloor mix."

What with his endless remixing duties (for the likes of Rogue Traders, La Moui and

GT) and making more bouncy tracks as Neurotic Jock, the pale-and-interesting Denny is even more likely than usual to be sweating it in the studio than sunning it on the beach.

So what is next, then? "Right now I'm going back to bed."

16th Element's 'Warp' is out April 15th on Loaded. 'Well Strung', also on Loaded, will follow

## 16th ELEMENT **WHAT'S THE SKINNY?**

- Australia's Kam Denny makes dirty, driving house music
- He's called '16th Element' because he'd tried 15 other synth sounds on a track before he found the one that worked

**Dream collaborator:** David Bowie

**Worst musical retail error:** The Communards' 'Never Can Say Goodbye'

**Favourite colour:** Purple: "the colour of frustration"



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# LES HOMMES

Porn-friendly lounge lizards who are rewriting the jazzual book

“

I'm not into someone munching garlic bread while I'm

playing a really difficult solo,” exclaims Les Hommes organist Rory More, aghast at Muzik’s assumptions about lounge clubs. “We all love a lounge – cubby holes, comfy seats, bit of a dancefloor. You can’t knock that. But no canapés.”

In a slightly sinister corner of east London, Gloucester boy More, 33, and Egyptian-born cohort Tarek Abou-Chanab, 32 (congas, vibraphone, Moog), are holding forth as they await the arrival of drummer Vladimiro Carboni, 28, from his native Italy. Apart from lounging, their other hobbies include porn movies – in both a watching and an acting capacity.

“There’s a very underground scene in London, called The Frat Shack,” continues More. “There was a guy there who made this proper trashy film, Pervirella. We’re in one scene that’s like Caligula, except all the guys have bananas instead of dicks.”

After six years of sessioning, Les Hommes have finally got round to releasing their debut album. Polo-necked, xylophoned-up and slinky as satin slipping off Bijou Phillips’ thighs, the trio have slipped a tonic of skillful jazz and club back-room awareness into the world of easy listening kitsch. “Jazz is a dirty word,” says



**“Jazz is a dirty word. Most of Jazz FM is unlistenable”**

More. “Most of Jazz FM is unlistenable. But there are some great DJs opening your ears with records they bought for 25p from a boot fair.”

But though they may be jazzbos, their ears are also tuned to the funkier feet of a younger generation.

“We’ve played the Paradiso in Amsterdam, even Dance Valley. There’s a whole new crowd of 18 to 25 year-olds

who are getting into this stuff,” ventures Rory. Would they consider playing the UK dance festivals? “Yeah! We’d do a fucking good job at Gatecrasher. Old instruments in a modern context.” Just don’t bring any garlic bread.

Les Hommes’ eponymous album is out on April 15th on Schema. Catch them live at the Wardrobe, Leeds (April 19th) and The Jazz Café, London (April 21st)

## LES HOMMES

WHAT’S THE SKINNY?

- They play “groovy new B-movie sounds”
- They’ve toured extensively across Italy, Holland, Spain and the USA
- They know that ‘jazz’ is a dirty word

**Oddest record owned:** Airtio Moreira’s ‘The Other Side Of This’ (“a collection of nature-inspired percussion tracks”) **Favourite porno film:** The Man At The Top (“British, 1972, the sort of thing you’d see aged 10 on BBC2 at 11pm”)

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13 April

Rm. 1 /

Craig Richards  
Terry Francis  
Hipp-E & Halo

Rm. 2 /

Soma Records:  
Slam  
Funk D Void  
Master H

Rm. 3 /

Fenetik Records:  
Paul Cawley  
Sidewinder

20 April

Rm. 1 /

Tyrant 02: Album Launch  
Craig Richards  
Lee Burridge  
Martin Landsky

Rm. 2 /

Paul Daley  
Terry Francis  
Adam Freeland

Rm. 3 /

Bobby & Steve  
Chrissy T

27 April

Rm. 1 /

Craig Richards  
DJ Buck  
Tyler Stadius

Rm. 2 /

Wiggle:  
Eddie Richards  
Terry Francis  
Nathan Coles

Rm. 3 /

Krash Slaughta  
Mastomic

4 May

Rm. 1 /

Craig Richards  
Iz & Diz  
Amalgamation Of Soundz

Rm. 2 /

Paul Daley  
Green Velvet (Live)  
Terry Francis  
Swayzak

Rm. 3 /

Overlikeafatrat:  
Dr. Bob Jones  
St. John De Silva  
Gordon Ritchie  
Retroactif (Live)

# EL-P

Hip hop's poet of the dark side is here to beat you round the head



It's 24 hours after his 27th birthday and nearly six years after the release of his former group Company Flow's landmark 'Funcrusher Plus'. Spike-haired native New Yorker EL-P is sitting in his Brooklyn living room, musing on the creation of his autobiographical solo debut, 'Fantastic Damage'.

"There were moments of incredible mental isolation. There were a couple of weeks of raw depression," he says. "But it's the only way I would ever do something for myself: you get the full pain but also the full pleasure of completion."

EL-P says he finished 'Fantastic Damage' with a renewed zest for life, but its 16 tracks are steeped in anguish.

"I know the album beats you over the head again and again," he grimaces, "but for

**"You wanna relax? Listen to something else"**

me it's like, 'Hey, that's what I fuckin' do. You wanna relax? Listen to something else'."

On the album, EL-P (short for El Producto, born Jaime Linne) sets stories of personal destruction and healing against a gritty NYC backdrop. He calls it a 'rewind button' record. Following Company Flow's amicable split last year, EL-P consciously confronted his demons, and a song from 'Funcrusher', 'Last Good

Sleep' (about his relationship with his mother), became the seed for 'Fantastic Damage'.

"That was the first time I'd written something and felt healed by it," he says. "I got a little addicted to that feeling."

Not that EL's gone all Tori Amos on us. 'Fantastic Damage' is laced with themes of post-millennium tension and media disinformation.

'Blood' revisits the domestic violence he witnessed as a child, while 'Lazerface' is about his first mushroom trip. 'TOJ' ('Time Out Of Joint') finds EL-P vulnerable and apologising to an ex-lover, though it's swiftly followed by a twisted tribute to the exploration of her various orifices. Discussing 'TOJ', EL-P's steely exterior softens.

"I figured, 'Shit, I know myself a little better, I'm a little wiser,'"

he says. "Maybe I can dig out a few of these decrepit little ghosts that have been lingering in my brain." EL-P even contemplated altering the chorus of 'Dead Disnee' ("When the city burns down, I'm gonna go to Disneyworld") after September 11th.

"When 9-11 happened I thought it could seem

distasteful till I saw Bush on TV saying 'everything's fine, go back to your jobs, go to Disneyworld'," EL recalls. "I was thinking 'this is almost scarily relevant now'. I almost didn't wanna do it. But, hey, fuck it." Spoken like a true B-boy.

EL-P's album 'Fantastic Damage' is out May 20th on Def Jux

## EL-P

WHAT'S THE SKINNY?

- He's Brooklyn's most eloquent hip hop rhymers/producer.
- He owns the Def Jux label, home of Cannibal Ox
- He got his first tattoo last year. His mum's not happy about it.

**Favourite track:** Just-Ice's 'Latoya' (Fresh). "He was one of the first New York gangsta rappers."

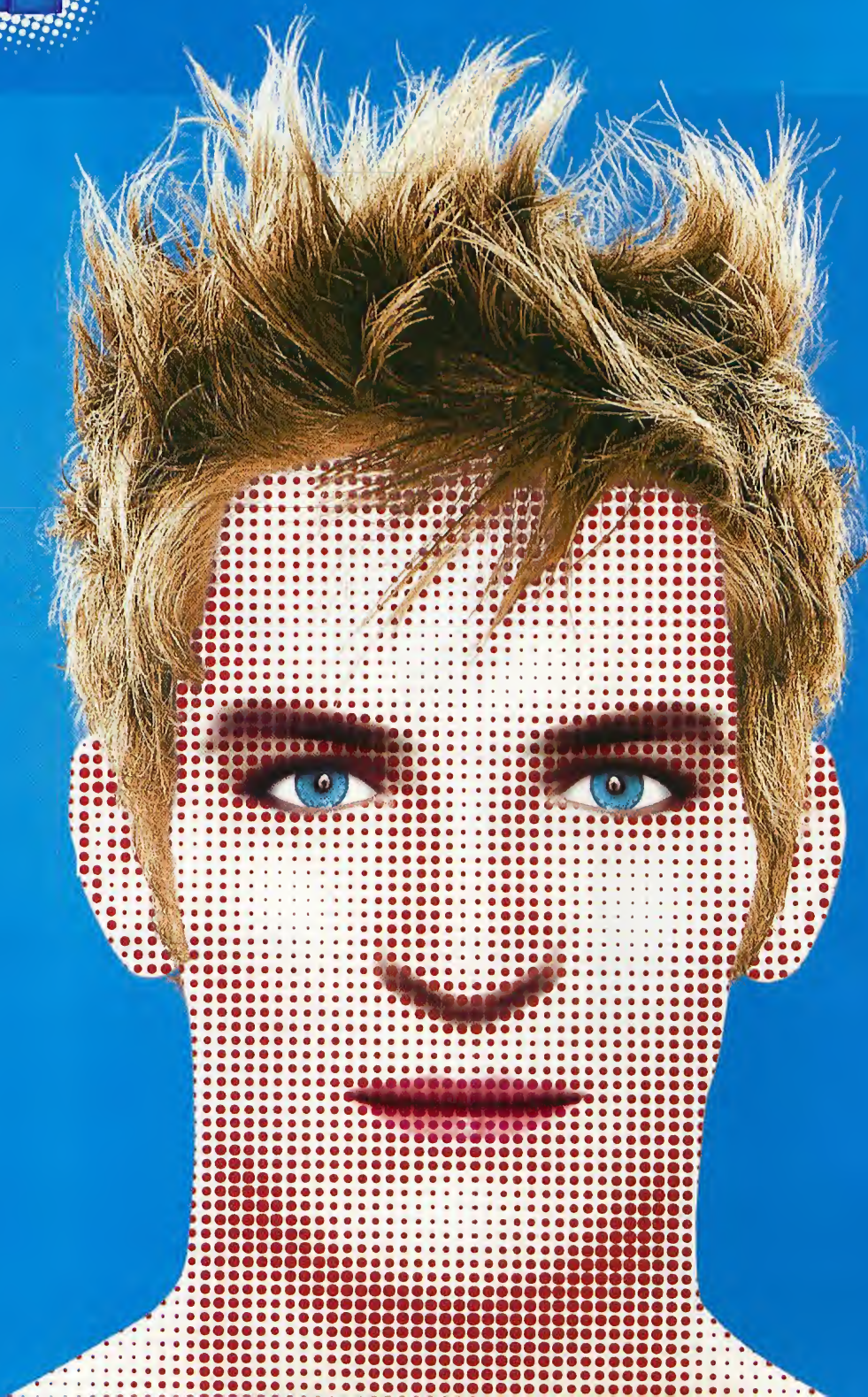
**Favourite album:** Slick Rick's 'The Great Adventures Of Slick Rick' (Def Jam)



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# Clubs **Bars** Gigs

TOP PREVIEWS FOR LIVIN' IT, LARGIN' IT AND LOUNGIN' IT

IF YOU GO TO ONE THING THIS MONTH...

## ESSENTIAL FESTIVAL

BRISTOL, MAY 4TH-6TH

**R**eturning to a three-day format, the first festival of the year moves from Brighton to Bristol, and they've booked the finest acts and DJs that money can buy. Dance Day features Busta Rhymes, De La Soul, Phil Hartnoll (Orbital), Lamb, Roysopp, Richie Hawtin, Andrew Weatherall, Felix Da Housecat, Billy Nasty, Roni Size, Krust, Grooverider, Fabio, Adam F, Judge Jules, Sonique, Tall Paul, Dave Seaman, Layo & Bushwacka! (live), Jon Carter, Stanton Warriors, Plump DJs and plenty more. Rock Day showcases The Beta Band and

a load of hairy people. Roots Day features James Brown, Herbaliser, Lee Scratch Perry, Courtney Pine, James Taylor Quartet and Afro Celt Sound System. There'll be nosh from around the world, a Bacardi Bar, and because it's the FA Cup final, they're showing the game live on a massive screen.

**BRISTOL, SAT MAY 4TH-MON 6TH**

**MUSIC:** Dance, reggae, roots and rock  
**VIBE:** A chilled three-day festy for those of us who love to get closer to nature  
**VENUE:** Ashton Court, Bristol

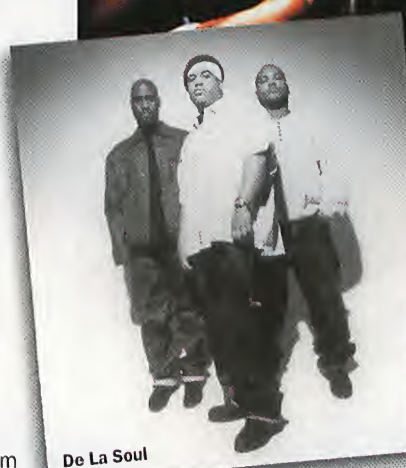
**PRICE:** £35 per day

**TIME:** 1pm-11pm/  
10.30pm Sunday

**TEL:** 0117-929-9008/  
0870-53-444-444

**INFO:** 09068-230-190/

[www.essentialfestival.com](http://www.essentialfestival.com)



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ADULTS £35 PER DAY (18+), CHILDREN £10 (12-17), FAMILIES £100 (2 ADULTS, 2 CHILDREN)

## OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS



### BRIGHTON

#### WORDPLAY

• **APRIL 19TH**

**MUSIC:** Hip hop

**VIBE:** Heaving

**VENUE:** Ocean Rooms,  
1 Morley Street

**PRICE:** £7/£6

**TIME:** 10pm-2am

**TEL:** 01273-608-886

DMC World Champion and bloody lovely bloke Plus One joins Mixologists and Fallacy & Fusion by the sea for some funk-up hip hop.

### BRISTOL

#### DEEPGROOVE

• **FIRST & LAST SATURDAY OF MONTH**

**MUSIC:** Twisted, high octane, underground house

**VIBE:** Friendly and fun

**VENUE:** Club Castro, Old Market

**PRICE:** £10/£5 members

**TIME:** 12am-6am

**TEL:** 07986-113-530

Intimate night of high octane shenanigans from local heroes Lee Pattison, Grayson Shipley and their guests.

### COVENTRY

#### TRAFFIC

• **EVERY SATURDAY**

**MUSIC:** Seriously good house

**VIBE:** Intimate

**VENUE:** Upstairs at Careys,  
Hertford Place

**PRICE:** £8/£6

**TIME:** 10pm-3am

**TEL:** 024-7622-7397

**WEB:** [www.careys.co.uk](http://www.careys.co.uk)

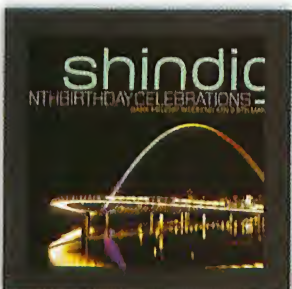
With Paul 'Trouble' Anderson (April 27th), Joey Negro (May 4th), Norman Jay (11th), and Ricky Morrison (18th).

## SHINDIG: 10TH BIRTHDAY WEEKEND

- NEWCASTLE
- MAY 4TH & 5TH

**MUSIC:** True house music  
**VIBE:** Two day bender!  
**VENUE:** Foundation, Melbourne Street & Baltic Square, Gateshead Quays  
**PRICE:** £15  
**TIME:** 10pm-4am Saturday & 7pm-1am Sunday  
**TEL:** 0191-245-3760  
**WEB:** www.shindiguk.com

What better way to celebrate a decade in dance – and winning Best Underground Club at the Muzik Awards – than to have a two-day-bender? Scott and Scooby invite Deep Dish to kick off the celebrations at Foundation, then pass the birthday baton to US housemeisters Roger Sanchez and Yousef on the Sunday in Baltic Square. Do note though, that the only way in is over the Millennium Bridge. Flash buggers. Happy birthday Shindig!



## ETHER

- LONDON
- APRIL 26TH-MAY 6TH

**MUSIC:** Electro meets high-brow concert hall  
**VIBE:** A cultural electro-fest  
**VENUE:** Royal Festival Hall, London SE1  
**PRICE:** £12.50-17.50  
**TIME:** 7.30pm-late  
**INFO:** 020-7960-4242



Jeff Mills

Electronica is now so fashionable that even the South Bank's Royal Festival Hall wants a piece of the action, with a six-day look at the ways electronica has developed beyond the dancefloor. Taking a range of artists and plonking them in a concert hall, Ether looks set to pull off some unique cross-genre collaborations. Opening with Jim O'Rourke, Sonic Youth's Kim Gordon, Ikue Mori and DJ Olive, other highlights include Chicks On Speed Versus Pan Sonic, Jeff Mills, Gotan Project, People Like Us, Jah Wobble and Cornelius. Don't know about you, but we can't wait.



## RED TOUR 2002

- UK TOUR
- MAY 4TH-JUNE 29TH

We're not really into endorsing products, particularly ones that taste as mingy as Red, but we can't deny that the Red Tour 2002 boasts a cool roster of talent. The DJs selling their souls for a vanload of cash include Erick Morillo, Darren Emerson, Jo Mills, Ashley Casselle, Ali B and Chris Coco. Tour dates are: Sugarshack at The Empire, Middlesbrough (April 26th), Sugar, Leamington Spa (May 4th), Bed, Sheffield (4th), The Bomb, Nottingham (18th), Chillidog at Dogstar, London (27th), Union at Rehab, Leeds (tbc) (31st), Passion at Emporium, Coalville (June 1st), Gatecrasher at Republic, Sheffield (tbc) (June 8th), Ocean Rooms, Brighton (19th), Kinky at Honeycomb, Brighton (28th), and Club M at Tall Trees (29th).



Red tour 2002  
[www.rednotbed.com](http://www.rednotbed.com)

## DUBLIN

### DAVE ANGEL

- APRIL 27TH

**MUSIC:** Funky techno  
**VIBE:** Techno, techno, techno  
**VENUE:** Tivoli Theatre, Francis Street  
**PRICE:** £18  
**TIME:** 11pm-late  
 Dave Angel gets all techno on yo' ass with like-minded boshers Aitor Ronda, DJ Orlando and Loki. Not one for the faint-hearted.

## GLASGOW

### INSIDE OUT

- MONTHLY

**MUSIC:** Hard house, trance and house  
**VIBE:** Hot, sweaty and 'ardcore  
**VENUE:** The Arches, Midland Street  
**PRICE:** £10  
**TIME:** 10pm-3am  
**TEL:** 0141-565-1008  
 Join Fergie, Tall Paul and Darren Stokes (April 27th), and Judge Jules, Simon Foy and Alan Balshaw.

## MELTING POT

- MAY 5TH

**MUSIC:** Disco classics  
**VIBE:** Educated and appreciative  
**VENUE:** Riverside Club, Fox Street  
**PRICE:** £10  
**TIME:** 11pm-3am  
**TEL:** 07855-418-745  
 Strut's Toni Rossano and Simon Haggis serve up a Sunday brunch of disco and house. Why not drop by and get 'Scotch pissed'. Arf!



## GRANDMASTER FLASH

• **UK TOUR**  
• **APRIL 12TH-29TH**

**MUSIC:** Old skool deck wizardry

**VIBE:** Old skool

**VENUE:** Various

**INFO:** 020-7485-7855

The Grandmaster who cuts much faster digs into the crates for a mix of new and old skool funk, hip hop and r&b. Dates: The Arches, Glasgow (April 12th), The Pod, Dublin (14th), The Rhino Club, Southampton (15th), Mean Fiddler, London (16th), Concorde 2, Brighton (17th), Lava, Aberdeen (18th), The Savoy Theatre, Cork (19th), The Bomb, Nottingham tbc (21st), Satchmos, Stoke-On-Trent (22nd), Coal Exchange, Cardiff (23rd), The Academy, Bristol (24th), Medicine Bar, Birmingham (27th), Dot Zero, Sheffield (28th), and Leeds Uni (29th).



Grandmaster Flash

## AIRTIGHT

• **MANCHESTER**  
• **EVERY FRIDAY**

**MUSIC:** Breaks and beatz

**VIBE:** Party atmos, proper tunes

**VENUE:** Club North, Tib Street

**PRICE:** £8/£6

**TIME:** 11pm-4am

**TEL:** 01625-267-396/

0161-839-1989



It's not often that a small breakbeat night makes such a big impression, but this little gem up North has all the elements to guarantee that its credible and knowledgeable punters don't look elsewhere for their breakbeat morsels. The venue is a modern, stylish space that does enough to make Airtight into an intimate and proper party. Residents are Iain Taylor, Jon McCabe and DJ Lifebuoy, with special guests Jody (Way Out West) (April 26th), Adam Freeland (May 3rd), a battle of the labels with TCR versus Fingerlickin' (10th), Killowatt night with Hyper, Terminalhead and MCs (17th), and the exceptional Plump DJs (24th).

## URBANTORQUE

• **LONDON**  
• **MONTHLY FRIDAYS**

**MUSIC:** Dirty, dirty house

**VIBE:** Dark and dirty – just the way we like it

**VENUE:** Heaven, Villiers Street

**PRICE:** £12-£10

**TIME:** 10pm-5am

**TEL:** 0870-600-100/

01923-820-111

Launching the compilation 'International Grooves Volume 1' and playing to host to Lisbon's DJ Vibe and Pete Heller, this is going to be a night full of seamy, sleazy house music. Joining the house heads is Detroit's finest, Juan Atkins, making a very rare appearance and The Dakota Bar features Heroes For Hire, Veena Harlem and Atomfunk (April 12th). Next month has residents Departure Lounge and Facedown with those troublesome guests The Murk Boys (May 10th).



Juan Atkins

urbantorque

## OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

### GLASGOW

#### PRESSURE

• **APRIL 26TH**

**MUSIC:** Techy house

**VIBE:** Fookin' mental

**VENUE:** The Arches, Midland Street

**PRICE:** £18 in advance

**TIME:** 10pm-3am.

**WEB:** www.slamevents.com  
Media darlings X-Press 2 join Josh Wink, Umek, Stuart Patterson, George T, Marc McCabe and Percy X for a truly stomping night.

### LEEDS

#### TECHNIQUE

• **FORTNIGHTLY SATURDAYS**

**MUSIC:** Phat breaks and leftfield house

**VIBE:** Pure party vibes

**VENUE:** Oslo, 174

Lower Briggate

**PRICE:** £7/£6 NUS

**TIME:** 9pm-4am

**TEL:** 0113-242-0506

Chunky house and badass breaks from Tayo (April 20th), and Nathan Coles (May 4th).

### LIVERPOOL

#### X

• **MAY 10TH**

**MUSIC:** Drum & bass

**VIBE:** Rollin' in the place

**VENUE:** Nation, Wolstenholme Square

**PRICE:** £10

**TIME:** 10.30pm-4am.

**TEL:** 07967-626-927

In May, Roni Size and MC Dynamite drop by, alongside Futurebound and MC-S. Then on June 7th, True Playaz will be mashing up the venue.



**Live:**  
**Faithless**  
**Underworld**  
**Stanton Warriors**  
**Layo & Bushwacka Live!**  
**DJs:**  
**Paul Oakenfold**  
**Sasha**  
**Deep Dish**  
**Pete Tong**  
**Dave Clarke**  
**Seb Fontaine**  
**DJ Tiësto**  
**Erick Morillo**  
**X-Press 2**  
**Judge Jules**  
**Ferry Corsten**



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holidays are for.

## DJ SHADOW

• **UK SHOWS**  
• **MAY 18TH-20TH**

**MUSIC:** Hip hop  
**VIBE:** Live and unleashed  
**VENUE:** Various  
**PRICE:** £12.50-£16  
**TEL:** 020-8910-3277/  
020-8910-3274



**T**urntablism's top dog, the exceptional DJ Shadow, finally hits the UK for a three (yes, just three) date 'tour'. We recently voted his album 'Introducing' the best dance music album ever, and his forthcoming album 'The Private Press' (out May 27th), is the most anticipated release since Nelson Mandela. Be sure to catch him at Manchester Academy (May 18th), Bristol Academy (19th), or London Astoria (20th). Who knows how long it will be before he graces our shores again?



## PROGRESSION

• **EDINBURGH**  
• **APRIL 20TH**

**MUSIC:** Progressive, obviously  
**VIBE:** Progressive, obviously  
**VENUE:** The Liquid Room, Victoria Street  
**PRICE:** £10 in advance  
**TIME:** 10pm-3am  
**TEL:** 07949-106-868  
**WEB:**  
[www.club-progression.co.uk](http://www.club-progression.co.uk)

If you like it proggy and chuggy, then this baby is where it's at. Our favourite fanny towel Danny Howells takes to the helm with residents Alan Dobson, Gav Grant and Derek Martin. And why not kick off the progression proceedings at the pre-Progression party at City Cafe on Blair Street from 9pm? It's really, um, progressive.



## THE CROSS

• **LONDON**  
• **MAY 4TH & MAY 5TH**

**MUSIC:** Techy house and sexy Italian house  
**VIBE:** Prologue & Vertigo  
**VENUE:** Kings Cross Goods Yard, York Way  
**PRICE:** £15 & £18  
**TIME:** 10pm-7am  
**TEL:** 020-7837-0828  
**WEB:**  
[www.prologue@the-cross.co.uk](mailto:www.prologue@the-cross.co.uk)  
[www.vertigo-danceclub.com](http://www.vertigo-danceclub.com)



**P**rologue pride themselves on bringing in young talent to spin alongside the, er, not quite so young, and they do it bloody well. On Saturday, Chris Fortier launches his album, a fusion of tech and progressive house, with compadres Sumsonic, Lee Ford, Paul Richards and Rob Blake, while Jo Shanks and Steve Gerrard rock Arch three. Then on Sunday, get glammed up for Vertigo. It's Italian and it's damn sexy, with Ralf, Alex Neri, Harvey, Claudio Basile, David Piccioni and Cosmo providing the sounds.

## OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS



### LONDON

#### FABRIC LIVE

• **APRIL 26TH**

**MUSIC:** Jungle and live acts  
**VIBE:** Very cool  
**VENUE:** 77a Charterhouse Street, Smithfields  
**PRICE:** £12/£10 NUS  
**TIME:** 9.30pm-5am  
**TEL:** 020-7336-8898  
**WEB:** [www.fabriclondon.com](http://www.fabriclondon.com)  
True Playaz' monthly session with DJ Hype, Zinc, Pascal, and The Bays (live). The Laundry host room three.

#### TROUBLE ON VINYL

• **APRIL 20TH**

**MUSIC:** Drum & bass, hip hop and r&b.  
**VIBE:** Serious about music  
**VENUE:** The Colosseum, Nine Elms Lane  
**PRICE:** £10/£8 NUS  
**TIME:** 10.00pm-6am  
Expect Randall, Marcus Intalex, Bad Company, Total Science, Swift, Nicky Blackmarket, DJ Ink, Specialist and MCs Skibadee, Fun, GQ and IC3.

#### TURNMILLS

• **APRIL 26TH & 27TH**

**MUSIC:** Trance and tribal  
**VIBE:** A birthday and launch bash in one  
**PRICE:** £12-£15  
**TEL:** 020-7250-3409  
The Gallery celebrate their seventh birthday with Tall Paul, Fergie and Sonique (26th), while Turnmills' new house night Roach scuttles into view, hosted by man of the moment Tom Stephan, with Francesco Farfa and Smokin' Jo (27th).



# Tribal Gathering Presents

## Weekends at Sankeys Soap, Manchester:

### Tribal Sessions.

Fridays

**12th April**  
Slam  
Greg Vickers

**19th April**  
Steve Lawler  
Medicine  
Greg Vickers

**26th April**  
Luke Slater - Live  
Sander Kleinenberg  
Greg Vickers

10pm-4am

**3rd May**  
Sven Vath  
Greg Vickers

**10th May**  
Layo & Bushwacka!  
Greg Vickers

**17th May**  
Tom Stephan  
Greg Vickers

**24th May**  
Jeff Mills  
Greg Vickers

10pm-4am

**31st May**  
Justin Robertson  
Greg Vickers

**7th June**  
Dave Clarke  
Greg Vickers

the redlight

Saturdays

**13th April**  
Masters at Works  
'Little Louie' Vega  
Bobbie and  
Steve  
Slammin Boys

**20th April**  
Lord G  
Krysko  
Luke Unabomber

**27th April**  
Joey Negro  
Krysko  
Angel Deelite

**4th May**  
X-Press 2  
(6 decks, 5hrs)  
Krysko  
Luke Unabomber

**11th May**  
Special Guest TBC  
Krysko

**May 18th**  
**Bugged Out!**  
Jon Carter Bugged Out!  
compilation launch

Jon Carter  
Tayo  
Erol Alkan  
Rob Bright  
Richard Hector-Jones  
Special Guest tbc

**25th May**  
Bob Sinclar  
Krysko  
Angel Deelite

**1st June**  
Subliminal Sessions  
Richard F  
CZR  
Krysko

**Sunday 2nd June**  
Danny Rampling

Are you tribal? Bench T-shirts available on-line at [www.tribalgathering.co.uk](http://www.tribalgathering.co.uk)

Sankeys Soap, Beehive Mill, Jersey Street Manchester  
Doors: Friday 10pm-3am (except where stated)  
Saturday 10pm-4am

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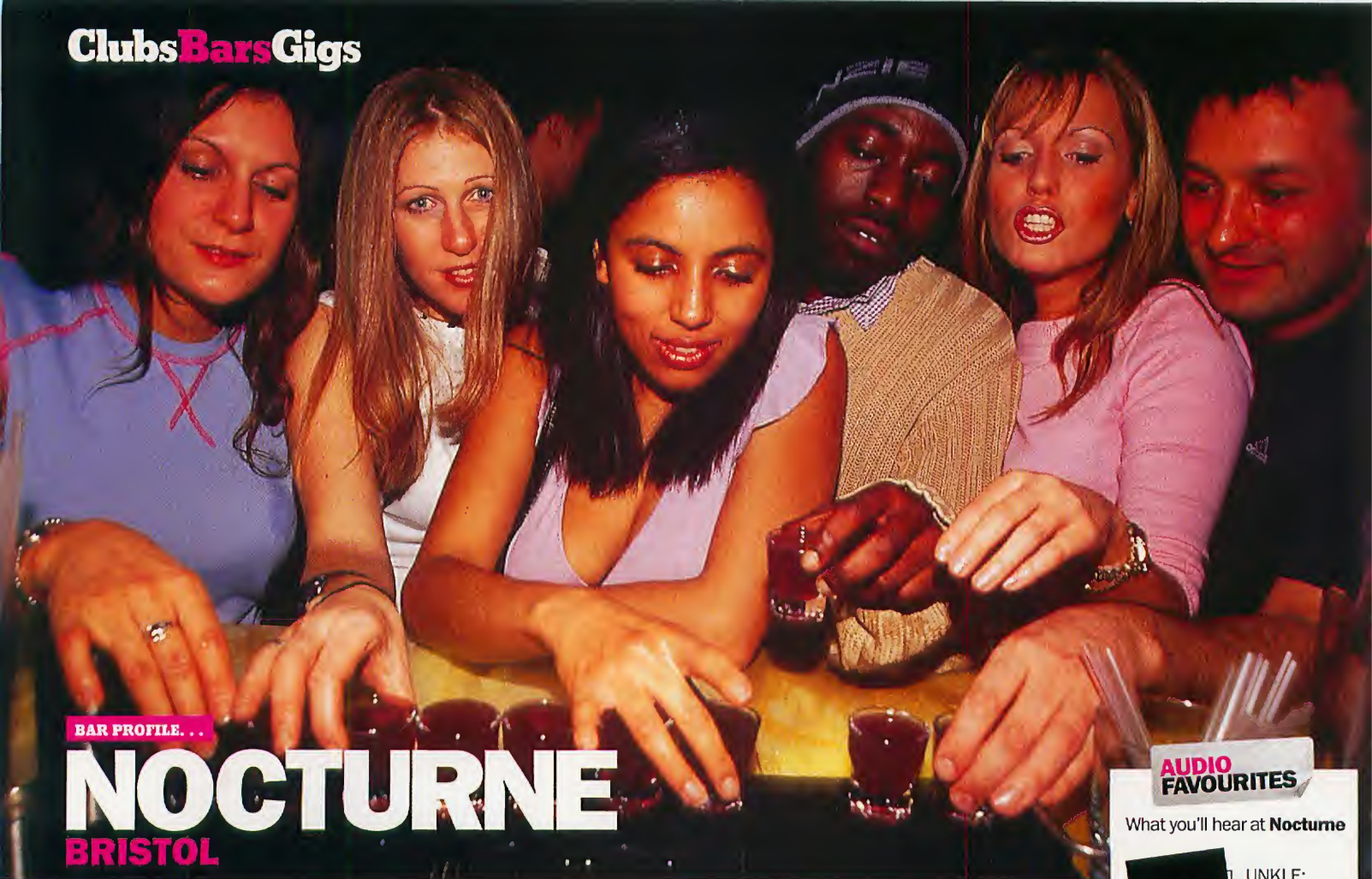
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BAR PROFILE...

# NOCTURNE

BRISTOL

**N**octurne is Bristol's chic-est members' bar, set up by Alchemy – the people who designed Fabric and Ché in London – and Bristol's dark overlords, Massive Attack. Here, you can sip an expertly mixed cocktail while sultry rumblings ooze from the speakers. These candlelit caverns are to bars

what 'Mezzanine' is to sound: brooding and elegant.

"It's like a club that links a network of people," says manager Jasper Eyears. "Anyone coming here will know someone either directly or by association." This policy leads to, as he puts it, a clientele of "lovely people."

They've recently started opening their doors to non-members on alternate

Wednesdays for The Bootleg Sessions. There, exclusive mix CDs by A-list artists are given out to the first 120 people through the door. With Massive Attack, Plump DJs, Trevor Jackson, Nick Warren, James Lavelle and Kruder & Dorfmeister among those who have produced CDs so far, holders of complete sets will surely be sitting on a gold mine! The next Bootleg

Sessions are on April 10th and June 12th, from 6pm.

**MUSIC:** Funky, dark tunes  
**VIBE:** Too cool for words  
**VENUE:** Unity Street  
**TIME:** Mon-Fri 6pm-2am, Sat 10pm-2am (Fri & Sat members only)  
**DRINKS:** Beer £3 a bottle, Cocktails £5-£7 (but they're soooo good)  
**TEL:** 0117-929-2555

## AUDIO FAVOURITES

What you'll hear at **Nocturne**



UNKLE:  
'Unreleased Sessions'

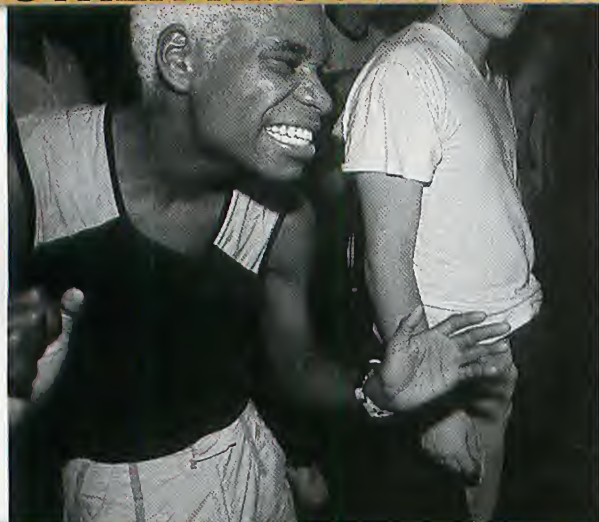


Playgroup:  
'Playgroup'



Plump DJs:  
'A Plump Night Out'

## OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS



### MANCHESTER

#### ELECTRIC CHAIR

• **APRIL 27TH**

**MUSIC:** Deep house to soul to funk to Detroit techno

**VIBE:** Electric atmosphere

**VENUE:** Music Box, Oxford Street

**PRICE:** £9 in advance

**TEL:** 0161-278-5650

**WEB:** www.electriks.co.uk  
 Pure pleasure from Ron Trent and Una Bombers in the main room, with Kelvin Brown spinning in The Shack.

### NEWCASTLE

#### CREAM

• **JUNE 1ST**

**MUSIC:** House and trance

**VIBE:** Northern naughtiness

**VENUE:** Telewest Arena

**PRICE:** £TBA

**TIME:** 9pm-late.

**TEL:** 0151-709-1693/  
 0870-242-7326

Cream take a bit of fairy dust up north, along with Radio 1's Seb Fontaine, those 'Lazy' boys X-Press 2, Sonique, Tiesto, Tall Paul and many, many more.

### SUB 7

• **EVERY FRIDAY**

**MUSIC:** Techno and hard house

**VIBE:** Realism not purism

**VENUE:** Club Metz (formerly Time & Space), High Street

**PRICE:** £12-£8

**TIME:** 9pm-3am

**TEL:** 01782-253-087

**WEB:** www.sub7.tv

With resident Hemstock and guests Umek and Joy Kitikonti (April 12th), Bismark and Badade (19th), Simon Foy and Paul Bolton (26th), and Badade and a guest tbc (May 3rd).

**Saturday 4th May  
Bank Holiday weekend**

# maison

## **Room01**

**King Unique  
Phil Dockerty  
(Futureshock)  
Cliff Lay  
Daddy Funk**

## **Room02**

**Si Gracia &  
Seth Sanchez**

**Poole Arts Centre, Kingland Road, Poole, Dorset.**

Tickets £14 in advance - more on the door (most outlets will charge a £1 booking fee) £1 off N.U.S

**9.00pm - 4.00am\*** *(subject to licence)*

Info - 01202 259 802

**Credit Card Ticket Sales:** Ticketweb 08700 600 100 • Poole Arts Centre 01202 685 222  
tickets also available online from [www.maisonmusic.com](http://www.maisonmusic.com)

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Ja Rule passes the Daz challenge with aplomb

GIG OF THE MONTH...

# JA RULE

**LONDON FORUM**  
**MARCH 15TH**

**1** 5 seconds after rap's new, pint-sized hero Ja Rule hits the Forum stage, the place is filled with a deafening chorus of boos. After 15-minute man Bubba Sparxxx's preposterous, piss-taking micro-gig at The Astoria, you could be forgiven for thinking the crowd are getting their retaliation in first.

But Ja Rule's been brushing up on his British street vernacular, and just boos right back. Of course, the 'boos' don't mean 'fuck off you shyster', but 'what a delight it is to see you, old chap' – it's a London thing. It's the crowd's peculiar way of welcoming Ja Rule to a sell-out Forum, and he loves it.

Ja Rule has risen from hip hop's middle order to become one of the music's biggest draws. Girls hanker after his doe eyes and carved pecs. Boys get off on his thugged out persona. As the recent Top 10 hits, 'Always On Time' (featuring Ashanti) and 'I'm Real' (with J-Lo) show, he's got an ear for a decent pop hit. It also helps that his melodic, sing-song vocal style bears an uncanny resemblance to the late, great Tupac Shakur. But where Tupac was a

genuine rap 'n' roll icon who could come on stage, fart for an hour, and keep everyone's attention, Ja Rule is still learning his trade. He rides the initial wave of euphoria during his first two songs, the terrific, Stevie Wonder-sampling 'Livin' It Up' and 'Down Ass Bitch', keeping everyone amused with the obligatory hip hop audience participation schtick. But the trick is keeping the momentum bubbling during that difficult half-hour middle patch, and Ja Rule doesn't yet have enough variety in his bag, despite pulling out his monster 'Between Me And You'. Shipping over his song partners Ashanti and J-Lo would have helped, but you get the feeling that The Forum's dressing rooms might be a bit too, er, raw for Ms Lopez's refined tastes.

Ja Rule is a tryer though, bless him, and his parting shot, the humungous 'Holla Holla', means that 2,000 people filter into the north London streets without feeling the need to lob any beer bottles. But why did he wait until the last 10 minutes to whip off his T-shirt and send the laydeez into a panty-wetting frenzy? Ever heard of playing to your strengths?

## OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

### ▶ NORWICH

#### **RUMBLE**

• **MAY 10TH**

**MUSIC:** Old skool and drum & bass

**VIBE:** No white gloves

**VENUE:** Waterfront, King Street

**PRICE:** £12 in advance

**TEL:** 07780-705-833

**WEB:** [www.uk-propaganda.com](http://www.uk-propaganda.com)

An old skool special with Shades of Rhythm, Kenny Ken and the Ragga Twins. Get those airhorns out!

### NOTTINGHAM

#### **RETRO**

• **EVERY SATURDAY**

**MUSIC:** Classic house

**VIBE:** Lots of whooping and smiles

**VENUE:** Media, Queen Street

**PRICE:** £10/£8

**TIME:** 10pm-3am.

**TEL:** 01706-217-961

Paul Taylor brings out his box of classics for a trip back in time to the period in history known as 'back in the day'.

### WIGAN

#### **ON A PLATE**

• **MAY 5TH**

**MUSIC:** Colourful and imaginative house

**VIBE:** Vibrant and soulful

**VENUE:** Kilhey Court Nightclub, Chorley Street, Standish

**PRICE:** £9/£7

**TIME:** 5pm-2am

**TEL:** 07976-484-689

A bank holiday, a barbeque (weather permitting) and Northern Soul sunshine vibes – what more could you ask for?



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Sunday 2nd June, 2pm-4am.  
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BoardwalkMarqueesFunfairRidesVIPArenaClydeWaterbus

DavidMoralesSebFontaine808StateLiveErickMorilloTallPaul  
DannyRamplingXPress2(RockyDiesel&AshleyBeedle)  
GraemeParkDirtyVegasLiveShadesOfRhythmK-klassHuggy  
SisterBlissTiestoCorvinDalekAlison LimerickTrevorReilly  
DarrenChristianJonathanUlyssesDavidMorenoCirculation  
DreamFrequencyJonMancinilain'Boney'ClarkHarriDomenic  
PaulCawleyGrahamWilsonKieranMcCannTheJengaheads  
SpacelbizaSubliminalSubClubTheSoundsOfStreetrave  
PlusMuchMuchMuchMuchMoreToBeAnnounced

## Ticket Outlets

Glasgow HMV - Unit 5/6 Lewis Building, Argyle St. Tel: 0141 204 4787  
Glasgow HMV - Braehead Shopping Ctr. Kings Inch Rd. Tel: 0141 885 9005  
Glasgow HMV - 154/160 Sauchiehall St. Tel: 0141 332 6631  
Glasgow HMV - 72 Union St. Tel: 0141 221 1850  
Glasgow 2nd Precinct - 23 Bath St. Tel: 0141 332 4866  
Glasgow Ticket Scotland - Virgin Megastore, Buchanan St. Tel: 0141 332 4400  
Glasgow The Arches Box Office, Argyle St. Tel: 0901 022 0300  
Aberdeen HMV - 11/12 Union St. Tel: 01224 593 535  
Aberdeen Fopp - 13 McCombies Court. Tel: 01224 625 652  
Ayr Unique - 50 Alloway St. Tel: 01292 619 100  
Bathgate Nautica - 2-4 Whitburn Rd. Tel: 01506 633 677  
Dundee Barrister Records - 28 Church St. Tel: 01382 267 894

Dundee HMV - 71/77 Murray Gate. Tel: 01382 225 383  
Dundee Manifesto - 78 Commercial St. Tel: 01382 201 527  
East Kilbride HMV - 6 The Olympia. Tel: 01355 249 757  
Edinburgh HMV - 129/130 Princes St. Tel: 0131 225 7008  
Edinburgh HMV - 43/44 St James Centre. Tel: 0131 556 1236  
Edinburgh Ticket Scotland - Virgin Megastore, Princes St. Tel: 0131 220 3234  
Edinburgh Urban Desk - 36 Cockburn St. Tel: 0131 226 2134  
Falkirk Skewes Records - 5 Cow Wynd. Tel: 01324 625 275  
Hamilton HS Pringle - 1 Lamb St. Tel: 01698 281 430  
Inverness HMV - 32-33 Eastgate Shopping Ctr. Tel: 01463 250 961  
Kirkcaldy Skewes Records - 1 Whytes Causeway. Tel: 01592 263247  
Kilramondrie Unique - 17 Bank St. Tel: 01563 570 010

Livingston Unique - 106 Almondvale Ctr. Tel: 01506 443 304  
Motherwell Unique - 10 Muir St. Tel: 01698 266 666  
Motherwell Life's A Beach - Windmillhill St. Tel: 01698 609 000  
Paisley The Record Factory - 48 Causeyside St. Tel: 0141 887 6293  
Perth Concorde - 15 Scott St. Tel: 01738 638 628  
Stirling Libarito - 75 King St. Tel: 01786 464 846  
Newcastle HMV - 22 (68A) Cameron Walk, Metro, Gateshead. Tel: 0191 460 3883  
Leeds HMV - 1 Victoria Walk, Headrow Ctr. Tel: 0113 245 5548  
Liverpool HMV - 22/36 Church St. Tel: 0151 709 1088  
Ticketmaster 24 Hour Credit Card Hotline - Tel: 0207 316 4709  
Online: www.ticketmaster.co.uk  
Travel Info - Happy Bus: 01236 430288, Further Info: www.colours.co.uk

www.s1play.com/coloursfest

s1play.com



# CLUB NEWS



**World DJ Day** was an outstanding success, raising over £400,000

through club events, DJ donations and auctions – it's nice to know that some good can come out of us all getting shit-faced!



Faithless: Creamfields

**Creamfields** have announced a stellar list of live acts scheduled to perform on August 25th. They include Underworld, Mis-Teeq, Kosheen, Lemon Jelly, Stanton Warriors and Faithless who, after a sell out arena tour, also play London Brixton Academy on April 12th & 13th.

**Lisa Unique** is the latest woman to join the male-dominated DJing premiere league. She's become the first

lady of Twice As Nice, joining Spoon, Steve Sutherland and Omar as a fully-fledged resident. You go, girl!



Lisa Unique: Twice As Nice



**Colourfest** announce their summer event on June 2nd with headliners 808 State, Dirty Vegas, X-Press 2, Erick Morillo, David Morales, Sister Bliss and Sounds Of Streetrave with TTF, K-Klass, Alison Limerick and Graeme Park doing a Hacienda set.

**Gatecrasher Soundsystem** are boasting again with their line-up for this year's festival. Chemical Brothers and Groove Armada play live, with Danny Tenaglia shifting his allegiance from Homelands to play here



Groove Armada: Gatecrasher Summer Soundsystem

instead. All the usual suspects line up too, of course: Coxle, Oakenphant, Sashley, Tongleberry, Diggers and Dykey-doo.

If you miss the **Chemical Brothers** at GS2002, you can catch them at V2002, August 17th-18th at Hylands Park, Essex and Weston Park, Staffs, along with Primal Scream, Groove Armada, Badly Drawn Boy and more acts tba.



The Chemical Brothers: Gatecrasher Summer Soundsystem and V2002

**New Order** celebrate the release of 24 Hour Party People on DVD (possibly) with **Air** in Finsbury Park on June 9th (more acts tbc). Tickets are a thumping £32.50, from 020-7344-0044.



Dave Clarke: Voodoo

Liverpool's seminal techno night **Voodoo** will close its doors for the last time on June 21st with special guests Dave Clarke and Ade Fenton. Be sure to catch the last few dates there, with Andrew Weatherall, Steve Shields ad Lee Groves celebrating nine years on April 19th, DJ Rush and DJ Bone (May 17th), and Richie Hawtin (June 3rd). . .



New Order: Finsbury Park

## THOSE WHO ROCKED IT

Andy Weatherall



**Andrew Weatherall & Tom Middleton** at the Big Box World DJ Day event  
**Jeff Mills** at Two Tribes, Melbourne

**Anthony Teasdale** at The End. He's a total nutter – but in a nice way!

**Norman Cook** at Medicine Bar, London

**Yoko Ono** at Crash, London and The Leftfield Page, p110

**Steve Porter** at Axis, Boston

**Mr C** at Muzik: Response, London

**Danny Howells** at Two Tribes, Sydney

**And...** All those who chucked themselves out of a plane for charity. You know who you are. . .

## THOSE WHO LOST THEIR BOTTLE

**Lottie, Yousef, Jon Carter, MYNC Project, Mutiny, Steve Mac, Dirty Vegas:** Big girls' blouses!

IF YOU DO SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT THIS MONTH, MAKE IT...

# A WEEKEND IN EGYPT

**WHAT:** A long weekend in the land of the Pharaohs.

**MUSIC:** House, trance and techno are all high on the agenda.

**VENUE:** The Sanafir (www.sanafirhotel.com), and other sleek hotels in Sharm El Sheikh, in South Sinai.

**PRICE:** £300-£400 (if you want a luxury hotel, anyway).

**FLIGHTS:** £100-£250. Check

out [www.expedia.co.uk](http://www.expedia.co.uk) or [www.cheapflights.com](http://www.cheapflights.com)

**FOR MORE INFO:** [www.sharmevents.com](http://www.sharmevents.com)

Never really thought of Egypt as a prime clubbing location? Think again. The likes of Cream and Ministry Of Sound are regular visitors and many more clubs are following their lead. Hardly surprising when

they can be surrounded by beautiful, unspoilt beaches, sunshine, cosmopolitan people and up to the minute dance music. It's like Ibiza but without the high prices, moped accidents and boozed up, football shirt-wearing punters. While we were there we saw David Seaman playing in the luxurious surroundings of The Sanafir Hotel. Nice!



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# TRANS ATLANTIC X-PRESS

TEXT STEPHEN DALTON PHOTOGRAPHY CHRIS FLOYD

**X-Press 2 & David Byrne's 'Lazy'** has been the biggest dance hit of 2002 so far, but London house geezers X-Press 2 and art-punk hero David Byrne had never met face to face. Until Muzik stepped in. . .



**I**N A chic New York hotel, X-Press 2 stick out like sex tourists at the Vatican. The six-legged groove machine behind a decade of house, funk and breakbeat anthems are fresh off the plane from London and eager to collect their room keys. Boisterous Darren 'Rocky' Rock is the band's chief sarcastic geezer – even his proud Hoxton mullet is steeped in irony. It turns out Rocky and his softly spoken childhood pal Darren 'Diesel' House are lodged on the 23rd floor while affable motormouth Ashley Beedle, the 39-year-old daddy of the band and self-proclaimed "mayor of Muswell Hill", is on the 12th.

"I'm afraid you're the odd one out, Mr Beedle," smarms the receptionist. "What?" enquires Rocky, "aside from the fact that he's black?"

The receptionist winces and makes a strange noise, half nervous laugh and half strangled sob. The thirtysomething disco hooligans, for about the 50th time today, piss themselves laughing.

"It was just ironic, earthy English humour," Rocky says later. "But he

**"When I met David Byrne, I was nervous as hell. I was drinking coffee, getting more and more wired"**

really didn't know how to react – I think he was a bit taken aback. He's probably had to go to his therapist today to sort it out."

X-Press 2 have brought their earthy English attitude to Manhattan for a historic summit with former Talking Heads frontman David Byrne, the guest vocalist on their new single 'Lazy'. The band call it 'slacker house'. Everyone else calls it a surefire hit.

Despite Byrne's alchemical contribution to their record, Rocky and Diesel have yet to meet the original art-punk Psycho Killer in the flesh. Ashley met Byrne briefly two years ago, but Muzik has finally brought all four together to celebrate British house music's best-kept secret becoming full-on pop stars.

**A** three-man army of blow job and porn movie in-jokes, X-Press 2 sometimes seem like a Viz comic strip come to life. If one of them gets too serious, he is instantly undermined by the others. At one point, Ashley begins ►



"What are you doing in my flat?"  
X-Press 2 may make great house  
records, but they're shit at burglary

► telling Muzik about his youthful flirtation with Islam and his current fascination with Santeria, the Brazilian voodoo religion whose ritual drum rhythms have influenced X-Press 2's more tribal-sounding tracks. Suddenly Rocky is on his feet.

"Have you farted?" he snaps at Diesel.

"No I haven't!" Diesel protests. Rocky waits the air around Diesel furiously. "I swear on my life, I haven't farted!"

But if there's one thing X-Press 2 are deadly serious about, it's pushing British dance music forward. It may have taken them a decade to produce their debut album, the multi-faceted 'Muzikizum', but they have not been as idle as the summery Balearic glide of 'Lazy' might suggest. In the week of our interview alone, the trio have taken their three-man, six-deck DJ roadshow to Belfast, Moscow, Holland and Portugal, on top of a punishing promotional schedule and a high-profile charity set for World DJ Day at Fabric.

So how do the threesome rate themselves on a laziness scale of one to 10? "Nine and a half, probably," shrugs Rocky. "I'm pretty lazy."

Diesel agrees. "Yeah, I'm quite lazy."

"You're probably a little less lazy than me," argues Rocky.

## "The first house record I ever heard, I thought 'this is shit!' But after five minutes, I was hooked"

"I'd be about eight and a half," Diesel concludes.

"I think I'm probably the least lazy – about five," adds Ashley.

"I had you about seven!" Diesel protests.

Don't believe a word of it.

The roots of 'Lazy' lie way back in the mid-Nineties, when David Byrne made a call to X-Press 2 in their former guise as breakbeat trio the Ballistic Brothers. Byrne needed a support act for his tour, but the Ballistics had no live show and were forced to decline. Only years later, when their Australian engineer, James Brown, suggested that the bare bones of 'Lazy' had a Talking Heads feel to it, did the trio remember Byrne's interest and made contact again to suggest a collaboration.

When he flew over to DJ at Manhattan's Centro Fly in 2000, Ashley finally made contact with

Byrne in person.

"I was shaking, nervous as hell," Ashley recalls. "Here I am with David Byrne, we were drinking loads of coffee, and I was just getting more and more wired. And in the end I just turned round and went, 'David, take a look at these hands!' And that broke the ice." [For the 99.999% of us who don't get that joke, "Take a look at these hands" is the opening line of Talking Heads' 'Born Under Punches' – Old Gits Ed.]

Nobody seems quite so nervous when X-Press 2 finally hook up with Byrne at an art gallery in the arty Brooklyn quarter of Williamsburg. The former Talking Head arrives in chatty mood, and talks to Muzik for a straight hour (see sidebar). For a living legend, he wears his reputation lightly, and is clearly delighted with 'Lazy'. In between posing for snaps with the boys, Byrne recounts anecdotes about drive-in lapdancing clubs in New Orleans. And then he is gone, back into the city that made his name.

Back when Byrne was first fusing punk with funk, X-Press 2 were just embarking on their definitive journey through two decades of British club culture. Ashley, raised on rare groove, hip hop and reggae, remembers his extreme reaction when he first heard house music.

## BOOTY CALL!

Muzik unearths the history of Talking Heads samples in dance

### TALKING HEADS

I Zimbra (from 'Fear of Music')

There are lots of edits of this Afro-beat-influenced number, allegedly including one by New York edit-king Danny Krivit.

**Booty score:** 3



### FUZZ AGAINST JUNK

Born Under Punches (The Heat Goes On) (from 'Remain In Light')

Retouched and remodelled by Nuphonic

house heroes

Fuzz Against

Junk, this is

an essential

purchase for

true headz.

**Booty score:** 5



### BASSHEADS

Is There Anybody Out There? (Deconstruction)

Shhhh! Listen carefully and you should hear a distinctive Fairlight sound shimmering beneath that break. There's no escaping 'Once In A Lifetime'...

**Booty score:** 4

### ARTIST UNKNOWN

Psycho Killer (from '77')

An excellent acid house bootleg mix of this punk-funk classic emerged in the mid-Nineties. No one's admitted to doing it yet.

**Booty score:** 3



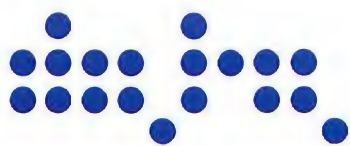
### LIQUID PEOPLE

Once In A Lifetime (from 'Remain In Light')

WEA/Eternal reissued this classic tune with some terrible house mixes last year. Stick to the original.

**Booty score:** 1

"I hated it!" Ashley nods. "The first house record I ever heard was Adonis' 'No Way Back'. I thought, 'this is shit, what the fuck is this?' But after five minutes of this being banged into me, I was like 'fucking hell, it's a reggae record! I like this!' Then one of my lot was going, 'No no, this is house, this is this new thing'. Then I became hooked."



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## GOING FOR THE BYRNE

Muzik shares a cheese sandwich and a few words with the **Talking Head**

**I**T'S the trousers that strike you first. Electric red drainpipes the colour of a London bus, and straighter than a retired colonel. Then there's the tasteful Gus Gus T-shirt, designer cardigan and crop of grey hair. David Byrne spent his Talking Heads heyday dressing like a preppy young executive. Now, as his 50th birthday looms, he looks like a colourblind children's TV presenter after an acid binge. Respect.

Aside from a nervy habit of averting his gaze when he speaks, the Scottish-born superstar comes across as warm, witty and sincere. Munching

**"If people aren't checking out my dancing, I'll dance the whole night"**

on French bread and cheese, he tells Muzik the story of his initial attempt to work with the Ballistic Brothers, and how that eventually bore fruit with the X-Press 2 collaboration.

"When I heard the track, I thought it had a little bit of a Talking Heads vibe to it, which is probably why they thought of me," he nods. "But it's taken whatever connection Talking Heads had with the dance world at the time quite a bit further."

Talking Heads, of course, were one of the first rock bands to embrace funk and disco, and remain much-sampled sonic pioneers. Byrne does not claim to be a down-with-the-kids Disco Dad, thankfully, but he still knows his dance music onions. His recent nights out include Basement Jaxx and Goldie sets, and he has even dabbled in DJing and remixing.

"So much of the music I've done is about groove and rhythm," he says, "so I feel an affinity with that world even though I'm not really considered part of it. I'm not an obsessive who's out picking up every mix, or every slight variation on two-step or garage or whatever comes out of the UK or wherever. But in a broader way, yes, I'm aware of what's going on."

As a married man with a young daughter, a busy leftfield pop career and a record label [Luaka Bop] to run, Byrne is not exactly a regular clubber. But he has seen many of New York's legendary pleasure palaces at their hedonistic peaks, and still goes out dancing when the mood takes him.

"Yeah, I dance," he smiles. "A couple of folks recognise me, but if I can get into a dark area where people aren't checking out my dancing, then yeah, I'll dance the whole night. I went to Studio 54 and Paradise Garage, pretty far back. Studio 54 was a scene I really wasn't part of, but there was great stuff going on at Danceteria and Paradise Garage – a great layering of different kinds of tracks on top of one another."

Ironically, just as 'Lazy' introduces Byrne to a new generation of music fans, his old band Talking Heads are being inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall Of Fame. After an acrimonious split in the early Nineties, the art-rock legends are set to reform for a short set just days after our interview, even though bass player Tina Weymouth recently compared Byrne to OJ Simpson and Rasputin.

"I can't say we've patched everything up," Byrne laughs. "But we've been in e-mail contact for quite some time. If I don't take it too seriously it should be okay. Being given one of these Lifetime Achievement awards just makes me think 'but I'm not done yet! I'm still working on some stuff!'"

While Ashley managed Soho's Black Market record shop, Rocky and Diesel were discovering E and acid house at seminal clubs like Shoom, Spectrum and Special Branch – while both working day jobs for EMI's weapons division in their native Hayes, which required them to sign the Official Secrets Act.

"It was great," chortles Rocky. "You could get away with murder – they never liked sacking people because of what you knew. People just used to take the absolute piss. You'd come in there on Saturday and everyone would be asleep under their benches."

**S**wapping military hardware for decks, Rocky and Diesel first used Ashley's studio skills on X-Press 2's 1992 debut 'Music X-Press'. The trio's Ballistic Brothers guise then laid down the blueprint for big beat half a decade early – typically, they didn't stick around to cash in. Instead they scattered to work on solo and side projects: Psychic Vitamins, Yellow Socks, Black Science Orchestra, Problem Kids and more. X-Press 2 had left the building, apparently for good.

But the trio's triumphant second coming began at the dawn of the new millennium at the behest of longtime friend, DJ and Muzik scribe Terry Farley. The official story is that Farley stumbled across a sample in Ashley's studio which sounded like classic X-Press 2 material, persuading them to record their vinyl-only Y2K comeback 'AC/DC' on the strength of it.

"We probably wouldn't have thought of it," nods Ashley, "it was just Terry Farley suggested that this sample that we found would sound great as an X-Press 2 record. So it was his suggestion. We made the record, it turned into 'AC/DC', and it just snowballed from there."

But there is a little more to this story. A bootleg re-pressing of 'Music X-Press' had been selling well on word of mouth, and Farley then transformed it into an official release on his Junior Boy's Own label. It struck him that a full-scale X-Press 2 revival might be mutually beneficial.

"It seemed a shame that people were making money by making records that sounded like them and they were just sitting around not talking to each other," Farley says.

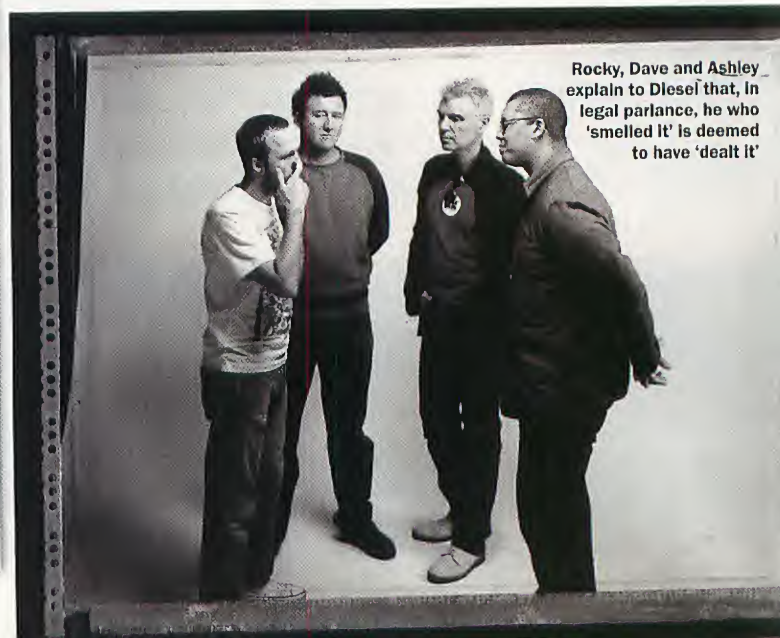
The success of 'AC/DC' brought X-Press 2 back together as a serious fighting unit, but a "political situation" in the JBO office meant they slipped through Farley's fingers and signed to Skint instead.

"I'm always happy when my friends do well," Farley says philosophically. "I'm not bitter and twisted. Mates are mates and good records are good records."

The Skint deal paid off in 2001 with 'Muzikizum' and 'Smoke Machine', both of which crashed the Top 50 without video or radio support. As you read this, 'Lazy' should be soaring up the charts, earning X-Press 2 their highest ever chart placing and David Byrne his biggest hit for 15 years. It's a situation that many, including Skint supremo Damian Harris, consider well deserved.

"X-Press 2 have enough history and credibility to avoid being tagged as one-hit wonders," insists Harris. "Every year there are about three or four quirky hits that are successful but credible, and I think we'll have one of those with 'Lazy'. For me that's the proudest thing – and for Skint to have a hit with someone other than Norman, ha ha!"

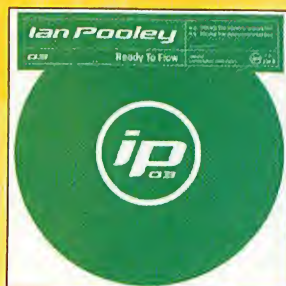
X-Press 2 are the hardest working lazy bastards in music, and right now it's payback time. All aboard the slacker-house express! **✎**





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# ELECTRIC

# BURGER

# KINGS

TEXT **ANDREW CRYSELL**  
ILLUSTRATION **LUCY@BEAT13**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **EVA VERMANDEL**

**FC Kahuna** were there in the amyl-fuelled basements of big beat, then ran the classic Headstart night at Turnmills. Now they're back with a goodie bag full of electro sounds. . . and they're up for a ruck. Who wants some?

**“**We were driving along last night and we heard the new Paul Oakenfold single,” FC Kahuna's Dan Ormondroyd recalls darkly from his battered sofa, a plate of beans on toast wedged on his lap. “And it was fucking dreadful.”

Don't be misled by the pleasantly leafy view from Dan's flat in Maida Vale, west London. Nor the cute photographs of him in the arms of sort-of-celebrity girlfriend, DJ Lottie, which grace

every shelf. There's a riot on the telly – swarming cops and baton-dodging protesters at the EU summit in Barcelona – and a fair old ding-dong in the room, too.

“Most dance music sounds like fucking Enya over a lame beat,” Dan continues. “It's boring and it's not acid house.” Jon Nowell, the other half of FC Kahuna, picks up on the theme and gets stuck in: “Oakenfold has been seduced by the money and the fame. He's just a thick bloke from south London.”

Dan [aghast]: “Don't say that! I

don't think he's a thick bloke from south London at all. Retract, retract, retract! He's, er, a *businessman* from south London.”

Jon [unperturbed]: “If there was any reality out there, it would be Aphex Twin who'd be releasing massive records, and everyone would love him.”

Dan [dribbling bean juice, armed with cutlery]: “And I hate the way the media lets these false fucking gods get away with it. Diss the fuckers! Knock 'em down! That'll get more people interested in dance music. A bit of attitude!”

A duo bearing the slightly frazzled look of those who've been out a great deal for a great number of years, FC Kahuna's thoughts on the rotten state of dance veer from sound points to rose-tinted reminiscing and occasional tunnel vision – after all, UK garage's multi-pronged attack is doing a pretty decent job of combining forward-thinking tunes with mainstream appeal. But at least they aren't scared to stand up and shout.

All of which may seem a little odd to those of you who remember their original incarnation.

# FC Kahuna

► Not that long ago, FC Kahuna were happy-go-lucky big beat geezers, awash with drugs, beer and the sort of tunes which made basement venues shake with delight. Nowadays, they're a bit more musical and a lot more fractious – slightly wiser and considerably more capable of making records which will stand the test of time.

Their first album, 'Machine Says Yes', has them lined up alongside Felix Da Housecat on the City Rockers label, spraying vintage bleeps and pulses, smart chill out and creeping weebegone in every direction. It's an album that's more likely to have you sucking on a joint and negotiating edgy comedowns than throwing your pint skywards. Constructed from "gut feelings" and "things falling into place", it's also a much better debut album than their half-baked early singles ('You Know It Makes Sense' came first) and remixes (for the second division likes of Dubstar and 18 Wheeler) suggested this duo were capable of making.

"There were certain things we went all out to avoid this time," ponders Dan, who mentions they were offered 25 grand to knock out a Fatboy-style album back in their big beat days. "We didn't want anything too sort of... *easy*. It's for people who don't want to collapse or start stroking each other's hair after a night out. It's something for people who want to stand in the middle of the living room and go... [Dan raises arms in the air, as if he's just scored in the FA Cup Final]."

Key tracks on 'Machine Says Yes' include the monster bass thump of 'Mindset To Cycle' (which was first released on their now defunct

Kahuna Cuts imprint), the precision-cut funk of 'Growler' and the beautifully curdled balladry of 'Fear Of Guitars', on which Super Furry Animals vocalist Gruff Rhys guests.

They've also enrolled former Gus Gus singer Hafdis Huld, folk artist Eileen Rose and ex-Verve bassist/Jon's next-door neighbour Si Jones for this album, but it's the team-up with the aforementioned Welsh wizard they're most proud of. It's a collaboration which began when they borrowed SFA's bass guitar. Without asking.

"Well, it got us talking," reasons Dan. "One thing led to another, and there he was, stood in a cloud of smoke, rambling into the mic about a woman who's got fishy fingers, who lives alone on an island and eats herself."

"I read that Timo Maas reckons it's hard to get people outside of dance to collaborate with you," Jon adds dryly. "Perhaps he should try going up to them and asking."

Brought together by football, music and living in the same Leeds street, our not-so-dynamic duo first hit the dancefloor in 1988. Moving to London, Dan got a job in student press and promotions. Jon was a regular weekend visitor. They witnessed the capital's club scene nosedive from the hedonism of prog/Italo house haunts Kinky Disco and Love Ranch into Ministry Of Sound-shaped mediocrity.

Then, famously, two blokes called Tom and Ed decided to start a night called Heavenly Social.

"I went to 11 out of the 12 Social nights down at the Albany," Dan notes proudly, recalling the club's original venue (now a Firkin pub). "I refused to go anywhere else."

**"You look for things which work together, which blow your mind. Then you're off..."**



Dan and Jon's own HQ of breakbeats and bad behaviour, Big Kahuna Burger, opened in 1995. Prominent for being the place to which Lindy Layton dragged one Norman Cook, thus shifting the Fatboy's musical predilections and improving his bank balance no end, on a good night the Burger rocked with equal immensity to the Social. Tim Burgess of the Charlatans (with whom the duo eventually toured the US as warm-up DJs), Jon Carter and the Bruvs themselves assaulted the decks during its run.

There was dissent in certain quarters of clubland, however. Some thought that, right down to their Pulp Fiction-sourced name, Dan and Jon were laying on the studied cool too thick. The fact that Dan was stepping out with Sara Cox at the time probably didn't help. Some accused them of being indie kids who didn't give a fuck about dance music any more; others of being big beat bandwagon-hopping opportunists. It's hard, however, to square such sentiments with the pair of outright dance romantics slouched in front of Muzik today.

"Some people perceived us in a horrible way because of Big Kahuna Burger, others in a nice way. But there was never a careerist game plan," insists Dan.

"We always used to get compared to the Chemical Brothers, but that's history now," reasons Jon.

But Chemical connections continued when, in 1999, Dan and Jon opened their new club, Headstart, at Turnmills, replacing the Heavenly Social. The comparisons didn't last for long,

though, as Headstart found the pair railing against the breaks with steely techno and warped electro. FC Kahuna's heroes – Andrew Weatherall, Aphex Twin, Dave Clarke, Josh Wink – all turned up to play and the duo found post-big beat space in which to experiment.

"Turnmills has a dark, warehouse vibe to it," says Jon of the place in which the ingredients for 'Machines Says Yes' were assembled. "It pushes you in a different direction. Your sense of space changes. You get more bassy, more electronic."

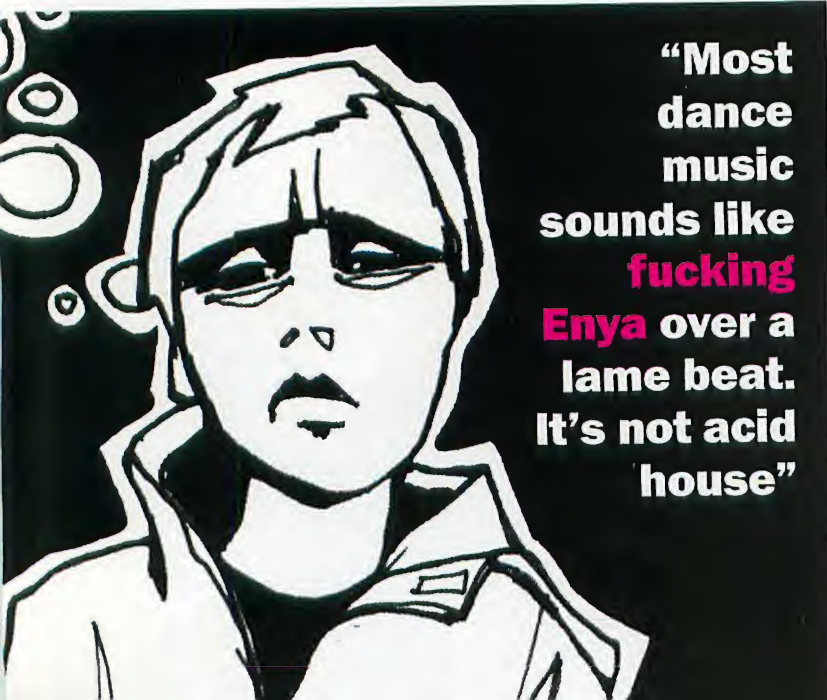
Sensing last year that the night had peaked, FC Kahuna called time on Headstart – they now host occasional Body Rockers nights with the City Rockers label at secret London locations – complaining that they were having to deal with "corporate factors. It felt like a rat race in the end."

Which pretty much gets us back to where we started: to FC Kahuna's belief that all is not right on the dancefloor in 2002.

"It's fucking depressing, but it's just the nature of big dollar hedonism," says Dan, scraping the last few beans from his plate. Then he brightens up a little. "But we're on the side which hasn't given up experimenting. You look for a combination of things which work together, which blow your mind, and then you're off."

Off indeed, banishing memories of big burgers and bigger beats to history. And everyone, even their mate in south London with burning ears, should approve. ☐

'Machine Says Yes' is out now on City Rockers



**"Most dance music sounds like fucking Enya over a lame beat. It's not acid house"**

Jon Nowell (left) and Dan Ormondroyd



## WE ARE THE ROBOTS

'Machine Says Yes' is about "people communicating through machines", says Jon. But what are the machines that rock FC Kahuna's world?

### K-9

**Dan:** "My grandad once built me one which was pretty fucking special. He made it out of metal and it had a walkie talkie in its head."



### SIMON

**Dan:** "I remember getting it as a present when I was a kid. I was obsessed with it. Was I any good at it? I can't remember, which isn't much good seeing as it's a game about memory."



### JUICER

**Jon:** "I love my juicer. Why? Cos I love juice! It makes you feel healthy, especially when you live in London and go out a lot, even if it's probably making no difference."



### TARDIS

**Dan:** "There were a lot of good machines in Dr Who. How can you not love something that's bigger on the inside than the outside?"

### APPLE G4 POWERBOOK

**Jon:** "It's the machine I want to buy next. It's my future: sitting in my bedroom making tunes on one of them. Bliss."



**PEACE!**  
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**ON THE STREETS LIKE THE LITTLEST HOBO**  
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TECH

# THE HIGH ROAD

**Optimo (Espacio):** The Glasgow sweatbox where underground electro meets 'Duelling Banjos'

TEXT ANDREW HOLMES PHOTOGRAPHY JASON MANNING

WHAT A BALAVEN  
CORZ

HAND  
A



It's Sunday night. A night for polishing shoes, wrapping packed lunches in pieces of cling film and watching The Muppet Show before bed. It's not a night for throwing yourself around in a

hot room to an unholy mix of house, techno, John Lee Hooker, Negativland and the 'Duelling Banjos' theme from hillbilly stalk slash 'n' sodomise movie Deliverance. But that is precisely what the crowd at Optimo (Espacio) are doing. What are they thinking of? And the unholy promoters who have chosen to besmirch the Day Of Rest with these eclectic musical japes – what were they thinking of?

"Sunday nights in Glasgow used to be a pretty duff night to run an underground music night," says Jonnie Wilkes, one half of the promoter and DJ team for Optimo (Espacio). "Now we get four or five hundred people every week."

Jonnie (softly spoken and from Northern Ireland), runs Optimo with Keith McIvor (softly spoken and Scottish). As Twitch and Wilkes, they're also the club's resident DJs. Together they've taken the idea of Sunday clubbing in Scotland by the throat. Not quite to everyone's delight, mind you. . .

"Quite a lot of people have been barred by their bosses at work from coming to Optimo," says Jonnie, with not a little pride. "You can't access the website or the chatroom from the University computers any more, either."

"A friend of mine works in a restaurant and in the staff room there's a sign saying 'all employees must NOT go to Optimo on a Sunday night'," adds Keith, a glint in his eye. "Excellent!"

Optimo (Espacio) isn't the first bonkers club on a Sunday night. Indeed, Sunday night clubs are traditionally more Bacchanalian than the rest of the week put together – something to do with the sheer obtuseness of clubbing on a school night. Nor is Optimo

**"A lot of people have been barred by their bosses from coming to Optimo"**

the first club ever to boast a truly diverse musical slate. However, along with London's more indie-ish Marvellous, it's the best club to combine Sunday revelry with brave eclecticism. For anyone with a big record collection, or who pre-dates dance music, or who's ever had that "wish there was a club that played my music" midnight conversation, it'd be near-impossible to walk in and not have a 'Mamma, I'm home'-style epiphany. Basically, hedonists with record collections love and will love Optimo. ▶

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## JUST THE FACTS, MAN

Bluff your way around Optimo

- The Optimo (Espacio) motto is 'We Love Your Ears'.
- Optimo (Espacio) have so far had a gypsy-like, transient history, the poor loves. They began at the Sub Club in 1997, but after the Sub Club suffered a fire, Optimo decamped to the 13th Note. From there they went to Planet Peach and then to their current home, Mas, although a return to the newly revamped Sub Club is now on the cards.
- Optimo is named after a seminal album by electro pioneers Liquid Liquid, whose track 'Cavern' (from 'Optimo') was pillaged to provide the bassline for Grandmaster Flash's anti-gak anthem 'White Lines (Don't Do It)'. The (Espacio) bit is a reference to the Fast Show's Channel 9 sketch, but happily the two together mean 'Optimum Space'.
- According to Jonnie Wilkes, "Madonna's always on the guest list, but has never turned up." Shame on her. However, Arab Strap's Aldan Moffat is a regular and has been known to suffer stalking by excessively 'refreshed' Muzik correspondents.
- When noted dub reggae mad bastard Lee Scratch Perry visited the club, he refused to shake the hand of anyone who couldn't prove they were a vegetarian. "It was almost like the Second Coming when he went on stage," says Jonnie.

And its reputation is clearly spreading. The next day, as Muzik is nursing a sore head and preparing for the journey home, a taxi driver asks us where we've been.

"I know it," he says when we tell him. "I've just driven a load of lads to the airport going back to London. They say they go there all the time. . ." See?

For further proof, visit the club's ace website at [www.optimo.co.uk](http://www.optimo.co.uk), the virtual meeting place for a growing musical community. Here you can find out why 'The Slits' version of 'Heard It Through The Grapevine' knocks Marvin's into a cocked hat; or get a look-see at the set lists and wonder quite how Twitch managed to mix Joy Division's 'Transmission' into 'I Sit On Acid' by Lords Of Acid, followed by Nina Simone's 'Feeling Good'.

At an average Optimo night, Jonnie and Keith (as Twitch and Wilkes) get things going in the main room, beguiling and befuddling for a couple of hours, before letting a band have a go. Tonight, alas, there are no bands, but normally you might expect to see ARE Weapons, Op:l Bastards, DMX Krew, Dakar & Grinser, Mad Professor, or Peaches.

While that's going on, the second room hosts a guest DJ (tonight, it's Elizabeth Esselink from Solex). The second room is no less eclectic but ever so slightly more laid back than the main room. Despite the Optimo website's instruction to "kill all DJs", it has played host to the likes of Marshall Jefferson and Ashley Beedle before now. All this musical talent is for the benefit of several hundred happy punters, a mixed crowd who all have one thing in common: they're either not working tomorrow or they don't give a toss.

**"Optimo is what clubbing's all about: it's dark and it's hot and it's sleazy"**



Optimo may be the Big Rock Candy Mountain of clubbing – where they hung the man who invented work, and on the gallows next to him the bloke who insisted that music has boundaries – but it doesn't happen by accident. At the eye of the storm, in the main DJ booth, Twitch and Wilkes pay nearly as much attention to their sampler and iBook as they do to the decks. If they give the impression of throwing everything at the wall and seeing what sticks, well, that's cool, but in fact a lot of effort goes into creating the Optimo musical experience.

"The first hour we play anything from really sleazy blues to wiggly electro, to waltz music, to Suicide," says Jonnie. "And that's where the work at Optimo comes in: it's managing to tie together this really diverse stuff, but make it hang together as a set. That's why we use the sampler and laptop so much with our effects so we can string together a night that somehow holds together."

The fact that it does hold together, and has become the four-year overnight phenomenon it is, clearly bemuses the pair, who began the night when they individually became bored with spinning straight-up techno. Keith, who'd previously hosted the legendary Pure nights, asked Jonnie to join him, and, as Twitch and Wilkes, they started Optimo, a Sunday night bash only because there were no other nights in the week available.

## OPTIMO TOP FIVE

1. **Y Pants** Off The Hook (99)
2. **? & The Mysterians** 96 Tears (Elektra)
3. **Frank Martiniq** Adriano (Boxer)
4. **Anna Kaufen** Jumping Jack Trash (aTC)
5. **Gallon Drunk** Fire Music Part Two (Sweet Nothing)

"Optimo's all about trying to find new music," adds Keith. "Although often we're cutting up old stuff, we're making new music out of that."

There's now an Optimo label, where they hope to release some of the legendary Optimo bootlegs. This month, they've enticed punk-funk legends ESG, Richie Hawtin, Pole and Matthew Herbert to their part of the Tryptich music festival at the Glasgow Barrowlands.

"Without being arrogant, there's no one else round here that does what we do," says Keith.

"Optimo is an avenue for playing whatever we want on a Sunday and it's become what we think clubbing's about," adds Jonnie. "It's dark and it's hot and it's sleazy." ☑

Optimo (Espacio) at Glasgow Barrowlands with ESG, Richie Hawtin, Pole and Matthew Herbert is on Friday April 26th

**"Optimo's about finding new music. We play anything from blues to electro to Suicide"**





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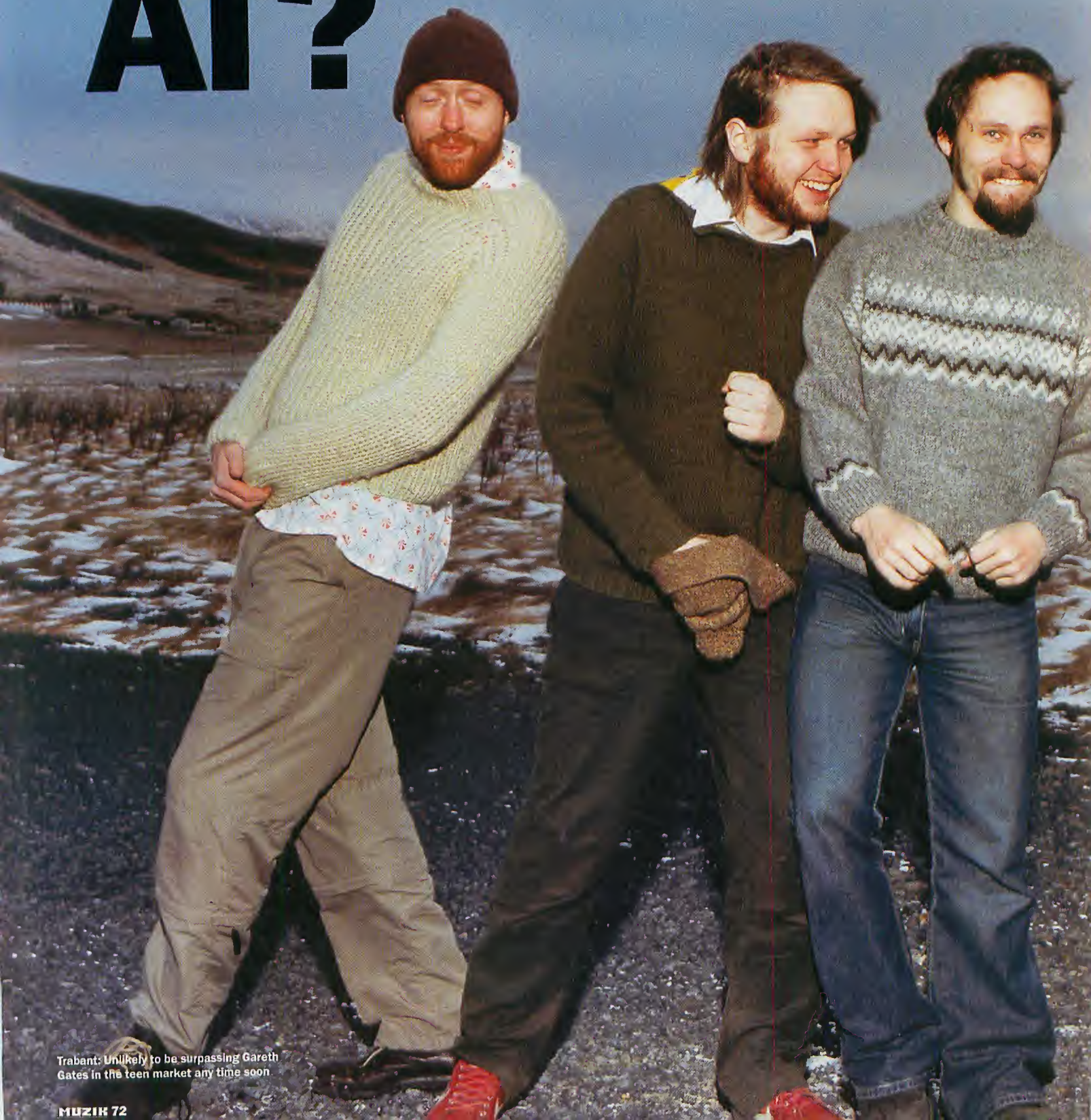


**"It's all a matter of opinion"**

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# KNITWEAR'S YOUR HEAD AT?



Trabant: Unlikely to be surpassing Gareth Gates in the teen market any time soon

TEXT NED DENNY PHOTOGRAPHY BRIAN SWEENEY

Muzik hits Iceland to meet the beautifully bearded **Trabant**, the best electronic future funk outfit you've never heard of



**T**here are large men attempting to stage-dive onto groups of people anything up to, ooh, five strong. A girl is dancing nonchalantly with another girl sitting parrot-like on her shoulder, while the DJ rinses out a revolting selection of Pat Sharpe's favourite tunes, with the odd (very odd), incongruously up-to-the-minute bootleg thrown in. The air is alive with human energy, and there is no discernible end in sight. When we finally make our excuses at around 5am, we're looked at with friendly incredulity.

We're not, as you might think, in Bedford's legendary Mr Snobs nightclub, but rather, a prefab dive in Reykjavik, Iceland, where we were frisked and then kissed upon our entrance. So to speak. We're here on a quest – to track down Trabant, a group that has bewitched,

**“The Trabant was the perfect people's car – a low budget, extremely dangerous car”**

bothered and bewildered us ever since recordings of their deranged Icelandic amalgamation of mechanoid beats, willfully weird sonics and proper tunes dropped through Muzik's letterbox.

**T**hat first single, a 12-inch containing 'Enter Spacebar' and 'Lady Elephant', regular readers may recall, was Single Of The Month in our February issue. Described then as replicating the sound of "Funkadelic jamming with the mad android from Logan's Run", it was a forewarning of the bittersweet lunacy contained in their debut album 'Moment Of Truth'. Ranging from loping, funereal waltzes ('Org Org') to unabashedly homoerotic love anthems ('Superman') via the Beach Boys-meet-Basement Jaxx oddness of 'Bahama Banana', it has a spectral, dirge-like quality that you suspect is rooted in Iceland's otherworldly geography and bizarre natural phenomena. This, remember, is the land of black lava fields, burping geysers, the Northern Lights and glaciers that slice through rock like butter. ►

## GET FACT! IN ICELAND

- Over 52% of Iceland's landmass is classified as desert.
- The island is dotted with geological curiosities – active volcanoes, geysers, thermal springs, lava flows, craters, glaciers, icecaps and 'mudpots', whatever they are.
- In the middle of winter in Reykjavik, the sun rises at noon and sets again around two hours later. Barely time for lunch.
- Speaking of lunch, traditional Icelandic grub includes shark meat that's been buried in sand until it starts to rot. Bite *that*, Nigella!
- The hot water in Iceland is pumped from sulphuric springs deep beneath the ground. As a consequence of this, it has a distinct aroma of bum-guffs.
- Every year, a number of men are admitted to hospital with acute frostbite after attempting to 'drain the lizard' outdoors when drunk. Possibly.



"It's so fucking cold in here!"  
Trabant capture the existential angst of Arctic Circle life



"Thorvaldur is my fave – he's dreamy!"

▶ That said, the album also has an vague similarity to 'For Beginner Piano' by Birmingham oddballs Plone – a record which, it later transpires, they've never heard.

At the headquarters of Trabant's label Thule Records, the two key members of the band – Vidar 'Viddi' Gislason, who drove us here from the airport, and Thorvaldur "Doddi" Grondal, who we later spot playing spasmodic air guitar to Bon Jovi's 'Living On A Prayer' – are feeling a mite fragile. Doddi's also preoccupied with the imminent start of the handball ("like football, but with your hand") semi-final between Iceland and old enemies Sweden. Nevertheless, he still manages to give a fairly articulate explanation for the band being named after a crummy Eastern European car, whose only previous claim to fame was to be unwillingly involved in much irony-related hilarity by U2.

"The history of that car in Iceland is pretty unique," Doddi recalls. "About 15 years ago, they started importing them. It was the perfect people's car, a low-budget, extremely dangerous car. Whenever you got in a crash it just blew up or the side just popped in and then maybe two days later it just bounced out and

the car was okay. And we liked the Trabant logo, so we stole it."

While Doddi snores in front of the handball, Viddi describes the various influences on Trabant the band – the soundtracks of Ennio Morricone, Nick Drake, old rock & roll, The Beatles ("I have all their records on vinyl, they're my favourite band") and, latterly, electro – all of which, unlikely as it may sound, their music refers to in passing.

Then we're proudly shown the sumptuous, wood-lined recording studio that sits at the heart of the Thule empire. We're also played music by some of the other artists on the label – the visionary tick-tock of Múm's 'Yesterday Was Dramatic, Today Is Okay', the big-top frenzy of Kanada and the messy, red-eyed, filthy-hearted debut album of Trabant offshoot The Funerals – in the frozen wastelands of Iceland, it pays to

keep busy by being involved in as many musical projects as possible. The Funerals' 'Pathetic Me' is a languid jam that's reminiscent of Tom Waits or Johnny Cash, and couldn't be further from the Trabant sound if it tried. Recorded in a remote cottage over two drunken weekends by Viddi, Doddi and three others, it's one of the most beautiful things we hear all day.

None of this hanging around in immaculately appointed studios, however, can quite prepare us for the extraordinary spectacle of seeing Trabant play live. This happens later that same evening in the altogether different surroundings of a humble Reykjavik semi, the parental home of the gentlemanly Ragnar (an occasional member of Trabant, who number four when they play live, and the lead singer of The Funerals).



Trabant's 10 Kilowatt surround sound system

After a brief warm-up by a trio from the Faroe Islands, whose set culminates in an acoustic version of, erm, 'Living On A Prayer' (*again* – it must be a popular number in Iceland), Trabant make their entrance, clad in natty tuxedos.

The sounds they proceed to wrench from a fairly conventional array of instruments – drums, a bass guitar, a synthesizer, a computer, er, *thing*, a sax – are thuddingly clumsy yet weirdly elegant, blaringly childish yet tightly controlled, a Dionysian affirmation of all things lewd, loud and preposterous. So it seems to us after several rums, anyway. The crowded, bourgeois sitting room in which they play makes it all the more odd, and the impression lingers of a group of wild-eyed wizards enacting some strange sonic rite.

Trabant's brief but brilliant cacophony over, we get back to the serious business of getting dosed. This is Iceland, after all, and the long polar night has barely begun. Reykjavik's unsophisticated but intense nightlife revolves around a series of insanely packed drinking dens that seem almost entirely bereft of the moodiness we're used to in London. To get to the bar you just hurl yourself into the throng, and no one's going to deck you for stepping on their toes.

At this point, therefore, journalistic fact-finding ends, and before you can say 'eggnog', we're back in the perfectly feng shui-ed surroundings of Reykjavik's Keflavik airport for our 8am flight. Asleep before the plane even gets off the ground, we slip into uneasy dreams of clapped-out flatbed trucks driven by Jon Bon Jovi while a bearded gathering of eccentrics play 'Interstellar Overdrive' in the manner of Kraftwerk jamming with the Chemical Brothers.

Trabant: they'll make it, we swear – they're halfway there, already. ☐

Trabant's 'Moment Of Truth' is out now on TMT Entertainment/Thule

# Red tour 2002

[www.rednotbed.com](http://www.rednotbed.com)

**Erick Morillo**   **Darren Emerson**  
**Jo Mills**   **Ashley Casselle**

**Chris Coco**   **Phil Mison**  
**Rob Da Bank**   **Ali B**

## March

**Sat 30th** Casino, The Zap, Brighton | Jo Mills | Rob Da Bank |  
**Sat 30th** Nice, Playrooms, Newcastle | Ashley Casselle | Chris Coco |  
**Sat 30th** Babooshka, Code, Birmingham | Erick Morillo | Ali B |

## April

**Fri 5th** Tribal Sessions, Sankey's Soap, Manchester | Darren Emerson | Ali B |  
**Sat 6th** Shindig, Foundation, Newcastle | Darren Emerson | Phil Mison |  
**Fri 26th** Sugarshack, The Empire, Middlesbrough | Erick Morillo | Rob Da Bank |

## May

**Sat 4th** Sugar, Sugar, Leamington Spa | Jo Mills | Rob Da Bank |  
**Sat 4th** Bed, Sheffield | Erick Morillo | Ali B |  
**Sat 18th** Drop The Bomb, The Bomb, Nottingham | Darren Emerson | Ali B |  
**Mon 27th** Chilli Dog, Dogstar, London | Phil Mison | Chris Coco |

## June

**Sat 1st** Passion, Emporium, Coalville | Jo Mills | Phil Mison |  
**Sat 8th** Gatecrasher, Republic, Sheffield | Ashley Casselle | Chris Coco |  
**Wed 19th** Ocean Rooms, Brighton | Ashley Casselle | Rob Da Bank |  
**Fri 28th** Kinky, Honeyclub, Brighton | Erick Morillo | Chris Coco |  
**Sat 29th** Club M, Tall Trees, Yarm | Jo Mills | Phil Mison |





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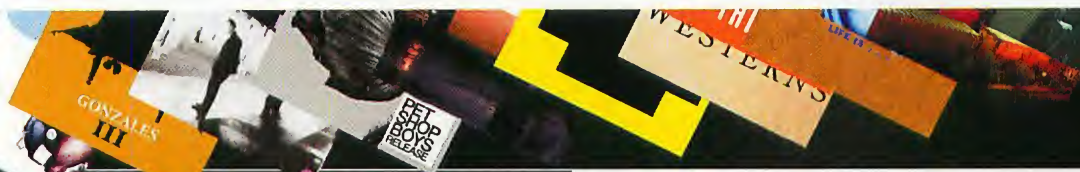
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# The Tunes

THE WORLD'S BEST DANCE MUSIC REVIEWS



**"The most important British pop group since The Beatles"**

PET SHOP BOYS' 'RELEASE' P81



**"Nu-electro, synthcore, electroclash... call it what you will, this rocks like a bastard"**

TIGA'S 'AMERICAN GIGOLO' P89



## Albums

### 78 ARTISTS

X-Press 2 and FC Kahuna lead the charge in the world's best dance music reviews section

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Some are excellent, some are not. But many are reviewed inside.

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## MAY'S MUST BUY CDs

1



### ANTI POP CONSORTIUM

**Arrhythmia (Warp)**  
Hip hop? On Warp? With labelmates like Autechre and Aphex Twin? Yes, it's fair to say that these

extraordinary electronica/rap mutants do not sup at the same creative well as their peers. More Noam Chomsky than Mobb Deep, the Anti Pop Consortium offer a heady brew of exploratory electronics alongside verbiage that would have Will Self reaching for his dictionary. And one of them is called Beans, which is cool...  
p79

2



### READYMADE Bold (F-Comm)

The French stable wins this month's award for Best Use Of Serious Vocalist for employing David Sylvian.  
p82

3



### BACK TO BASICS PRESENTS DANNY TENAGLIA (React)

Almost as much fun as his mammoth annual club fest in Miami.  
p87

4



### SOMA 10 ANTHOLOGY (Soma)

True to form, Soma don't disappoint here, and a bonus CD of 'Hidden Treasures' doesn't hurt either.  
p89

## THE BIG ONE



# X-PRESS 2

### Muzikizum (Skint)

Ashley, Diesel and Rocky come of age. On record at least. . .

**W**ith their enormous, six-decks 'n' nuff FX roadshow already infamous right across clubland, it comes as no small relief to discover that X-Press 2 haven't delivered a quadruple prog collection of box-set proportions as their long-awaited debut album. 'Muzikizum' delivers a small but perfectly formed 10 tracks, including three club smashes with a guaranteed fourth on the way. It's a coherent collection of thumping drums, cool collaborations and soul-stirring keyboard work.

Opening with the heavenly house of the still essential, palindromic title track, the album continues

imperiously on its way with a future Tenaglia end-of-nighter called 'Supasong' – mood music in the true sense of the word – before the ubiquitous, David Byrne-sung 'Lazy' yawns as wide as Rocky's waistband. 'Lazy' is a classic radio-friendly, pop crossover record. If there's any justice, it should follow in the footsteps of Spiller and soundtrack a million summer love affairs, a million swooning dancefloor moments. You're going to be hearing it a lot.

As well as Byrne's art-funk yelps, X-Press 2 also employ the weathered croon of Yello's Dieter Meier, best known before now for the oft-sampled 'Bostich' and for repeatedly going "Chicken Tikka!" on 'The Race'. Here, his frightening vocals give Marilyn Manson's affected gargle a run for its money. Equally impressive

**"This should soundtrack a million summer love affairs, a million swooning dancefloor moments"**

is Presence vocalist Steve Edwards, whose Byron Stingily-style warble makes 'Call That Love' an obvious future single, and an introduction to the sound of classic house for a generation weaned on progressive.

Pushing the bpm counter back into the red zone, 2000's Ibiza monster hit 'AC/DC' is up next. Revelling in its spectacular voodoo-synth samples, it still cuts a frighteningly precise swathe around your ankles. Then, if you're still standing – and fair play if you are – X-Press 2 have a reward for you in the form of aptly named final track 'The Ending' – a tune to soothe your furrowed brow, updating Rolando's 'Knights Of The Jaguar' with a lick of west London spray paint.

Also on board is the apocalyptic boom and clatter of 'Smoke Machine', which concentrates a decade spent traipsing around

sweatboxes with disco-dirty sneakers at five in the morning into a sonic mugging. If you can resist the bass surge that signals the end of the track's intro, maybe dance music isn't for you after all. . .

Expressive, explosive, and occasionally experimental (but not too much) 'Muzikizum' is the kind of album house heads have been screaming out for. We all know from hearing the singles out that it works in the clubs, but this isn't just music that 'sounds great on a big system' (ie sounds shit on a home hi-fi).

"House is such a young thing," says Ashley apologetically – but this is an album that will appeal to nu-kids and seasoned veterans alike, at home and at play. Looks like that six album deal was worthwhile after all. . .

Ralph Moore  
★★★★★



## A CERTAIN RATIO Early (Soul Jazz)

Reissued gloom-funk from Andy Weatherall's favourite group

One of the first signings to Factory Records, ACR started life in 1978, taking their name from an old Brian Eno lyric. Alongside Cabaret Voltaire, The Pop Group and 23 Skidoo they rapidly became synonymous with post-punk's great death-disco experiment – malnourished (mostly) white boys fusing Funkadelic riffs with the kind of monochrome angst best represented by fellow Mancs Joy Division. ACR's gimmick was that they did all this while sporting a dodgy selection of Hitler Youth haircuts, camouflage jackets and baggy khaki shorts, with their lily-white legs swathed in fake tan (allegedly). Their recorded highlights may be less voluminous than their legwear – jazz-funk and Latin influences derived from trips to New York dance clubs in the early Eighties diluted rather than intensified their appeal – but Soul Jazz have chosen wisely. 'Shack Up', 'Knife Slits Water' and especially the brilliant 'Flight' should be top of anyone's dance music curriculum. Army surplus shops around the capital are poised for the rush of freshly shorn revivalists. Now, how about that triple-CD Pop Group retrospective?

Tom Muirgridge  
★★★★★

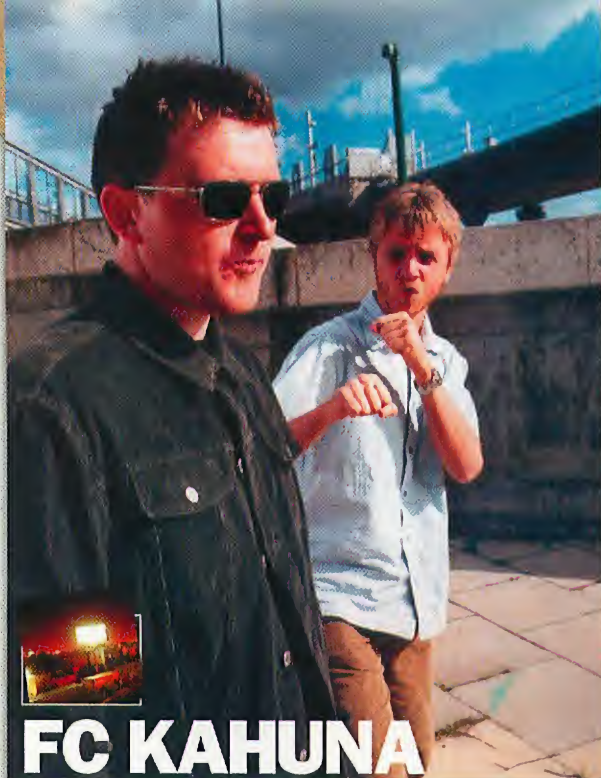


## ANTI POP CONSORTIUM Arrhythmia (Warp)

You like Autechre, you like the idea of 'rap'... now the twain shall meet

If you're not a hip hop head (and it's a rather snobbish, exclusive, sober boys' club that takes a lifetime to join) you may find the accompanying music ("The beats, mate, the beats, c'mon, geddit right") rather ordinary compared with the lyrical dexterity often on display. There are no such problems with Anti Pop Consortium, as Earl Blaze's whirling avant-garde bleeping adds an extra aural pleasure to the MCing of Beans, High Priest and M Sayyid. While the trio's outlook draws on the Last Poets' fierce rebel intelligence, Anti Pop's savvy use of language, while both political and suavely underhand, nonetheless avoids polemic. The curious collection of sounds provided for them to emote over, meanwhile, make Anti Pop Consortium players in an even more exclusive hip hop field, staring at their hippy cousins cLOUDDEAD over the barbed wire.

Thomas H Green  
★★★★★



## FC KAHUNA

Machine Says Yes (City Rockers)

Big beat survivors suddenly get very good – how did that happen?

Once upon a time, in the mid-to-late Nineties, FC Kahuna (aka 'the Kahuna Brothers', a tag they always abhorred) were the guys you brought in when you couldn't afford The Chemical Brothers; Kahuna Burger was the club you went to if you'd missed the Sunday Social; and Kahuna Cuts was the very poor man's Skint. My, how things change.

Nowadays, everyone with half a mullet is chasing Jon and Dan down to their very exclusive 21st Century Body Rockers night and this album is undoubtedly more hotly anticipated in many quarters than the Chemicals' recent 'Come With Us'.

That's testament to the way the duo, while retaining the cheeky charm of their roots, have knuckled down and hammered out a cracking album that nails down the sound of hip Britain (or London, at any rate) circa

2002. "I'm a bleep freak, everybody bleep", run the lyrics to 'Bleep Freak', and they are, you know – packing bucketloads of cyber-clicks, tonal twitches and broken computer noises into a driving, danceable whole for floorfillers such as the title track, the single 'Glitterball', the opener 'Fear Of Guitars' – which sounds like synth pioneers Yellow Magic Orchestra – and the slamming 'Growler'.

Elsewhere they get their mate Rachel to drop a touch of the Miss Kittins into 'Nothing Is Wrong', Gus Gus singer Hafdis Huld emotes beautifully on the luxurious chill out of 'Hayling', and the final 'North Pole Transmission' is a rockin' electro-blues song.

To be crude, this is a brilliant comeback, coming out of nowhere. 'FC' seems to stand for 'Fucking Cool', and if 'Machine Says Yes' who are we to argue – yes, yes, yes, yes, yes! Thomas H Green

★★★★★



## BADLY DRAWN BOY About A Boy OST (XL)

Damon Gough and That Hat rise ever closer to Muzik heaven Badly Drawn Boy scoring the latest Nick Hornby flick is 2002's equivalent of the England/New Order 'World In Motion' hook-up: credible and capable of mass appeal – but minus the rapping of John Barnes this time around, mercifully. Trimming the stylistic

experimentation of his debut album, 'About A Boy' confirms Damon's status as a songwriter of serious talent. First single 'Silent Sigh' could have been the opening cut – but Badly Drawn Boy is confident enough to save it till track seven. Charming and chiming, it's fair to say that fatherhood's not hindered his acoustic muse. "Don't wanna be anything I'm not" he drawls sweetly on 'Above You, Below Me'. "Could you connect/With my intellect?". More sweetly bolshy than

ever, the Boy combines the pop/rock panache of classic REM with the wit and understanding of a blossoming Bob Dylan. By the time his second solo LP explodes, he'll be as close to pop nirvana as Jeff Buckley was before him. 'Nuff said. Ralph Moore

★★★★★



## BEBER & TAMRA Suite Beat Boy (Mob)

Kevin Beber's latest baby is far friendlier than we'd expected Beber & Tamra are breakbeat's answer to Sonny & Cher – though minus the Sixties frightwigs (unfortunately). Following that sultry singer/weird-looking songwriter template to a tee, the success of the yearning 'You Wonder' single suggested that a nu-skool crossover was well within their grasp. Satisfyingly sincere, 'Suite Beat Boy' is bristling with endearing musical vignettes like the distinctive 'Oh Well', a track that ripples like Edie Brickell on an Eighties road trip with Raze. Where they let themselves down is in terms of texture, which leads to the album sounding almost AOR in tone occasionally. The solution? Muzik suggests an all-night drinking session in the company of High Contrast and Patti Smith. So will we see Kev backing Tamra Keenan's tonsil acrobatics on SMTV sometime soon? That, dear readers, is entirely up to you. Ralph Moore

★★★★★

## "Brikha takes the classic sounds of techno and makes them his own"

ARIL BRIKHA 'DEEPARTURE IN TIME'



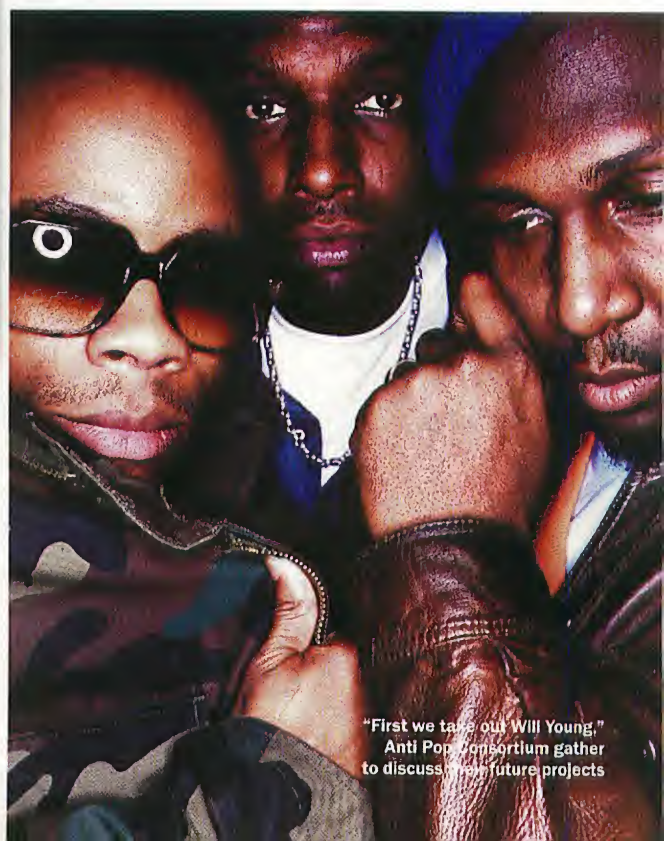
## ARIL BRIKHA Deeparture In Time

(Transmat)

Classic techno album that should appeal to more than the shaven-headed cognoscenti

Anyone who's really into deep techno will admit that it is a very conservative style. For a genre so obsessed with the future, it's ironic that it's also not just tied to, but pretty much stuck in, the past. Despite this it does occasionally throw up some exceptional talents and Brikha is one of them. Originally released over two years ago as a limited edition US import, 'Deeparture...' is a beautifully elegant, wonderfully emotive record. What's most striking here is Brikha's ability to make the classic sounds of techno his own, and make you feel like you're hearing them for the first time. Hopefully, this re-release will bring the record to a wider audience.

Dave Mothersole  
★★★★★



"First we take out Will Young," Anti Pop Consortium gather to discuss their future projects

# Albums



## **BULLFROG** Bullfrog (Ropeadope) A real live hip

hop band from Canada who are all frog, no shit

Indefinable debut albums are curiously appealing – this by turntable prodigy Kid Koala's band being a case in point. Is it the fact we haven't the faintest clue what their agenda is? Is it the mad mash-up of extreme hip hop and old school soul? Or maybe it's the way the band can actually play their instruments? As far as this Canadian sextet are concerned, it's all of the above. Another reason for 'Bullfrog' being highly enticing is the live, random element they throw in from time to time, just to keep us on our toes. Funk, hip hop, blues, plenty of bass instrumentals and North American accents (as hip hop almost always sounds better when voiced by our transatlantic cousins), all make this exceedingly agreeable, if lacking that X-factor which might take it to the next level.

Funke Kugbola

★ ★ ★



## **CHICKEN LIPS** Extended Play (Kingsize)

Kiddy ravers reincarnated into credible breaks LP shocker!

Remember Bizarre Inc? The sound of every Next clothing emporium in 1992, they've now reinvented themselves as Chicken Lips and are falling fowl of populists everywhere. Stalked by the ghosts of Eighties NYC punk-funkers ESG, much of their second album would make Arthur Baker cream his (rather voluminous) pants. Recent single 'Many Members', for example, is the sound of the Daft Punk robots malfunctioning in the Paradise Garage toilets. The indubitable highlight though is 'Feast Of Freaks' – a minimalist mish-mash of spectral geisha-girl choirs, elasto-funk basslines, primal screams and constipated Bedouin nomads. It sounds like a scary Japanese car commercial in 2075 and is eerily good. Feel like chicken tonight? You should.

Christian Koch

★ ★ ★ ★



## **THE CRYSTAL METHOD** Tweekend

(Tiny E Music)  
Disappointing new album from The Chemicals Brothers' inferior American equivalent

The Crystal Method might be the darlings of the US dance press, but their muscular beats and hard-edged



## **GONZALES**

Presidential Suite (Kitty-Yo)

'The Worst MC' releases his worst record. Still better than most of the competition, mind

The problem with modern music is not, as some imply, that there's no great music being made. Nope, the problem – for us music journos at any rate – is that all the great music is being made by people who look like shit and have no discernible personality.

Little wonder, then, that 'underground' hacks are currently going mad for leftfield hip hop hairy man Chilly Gonzales. He's a super-talented musician and performer, and he gives good quote. That he employs elements of hip hop in his music is the icing on the cake – at last, UK hacks can say things like 'dope flows' and 'wack beats' in reviews, without having to meet scary coloured people! Sorry, did I just say that aloud? Oops.

The only teensy fly in the ointment right now is that

this album isn't as good as his last, 'The Entertainer'. His knowing lyrics remain witty and occasionally brilliant, but they seem a slight notch below the poetry of absurdity found on 'The Entertainer', while the under-produced tunes also sometimes punch below their weight.

But enough of this negativity. The Chilly G at half throttle is still better than most other artists going downhill with pedal to metal. 'Decisions' skewers the sweaty, dog-eat-dog paranoia of the corporate climber, 'The Joy Of Thinking' reaffirms the sexiness of intelligence, and Feist's swooning vox help make mini-masterpieces of the narcissus-goes-pop of 'Shameless Eyes' and 'Saleri Serenade'.

But if Gonzo is to save the world from shit music, he's going to have to do a bit more than going through his old moves and preaching to the converted. . .

Duncan Bell

★ ★ ★

funky grooves have never quite cut it on this side of the pond. For this second album they've collaborated with Stone Temple Pilots' Scott Weiland and Rage Against The Machine's Tom Morello to make a full-on electronic rock/soul record that, the Primal Scream-ish 'Over The Line' and the Hammond-driven 'Roll It Up' aside, misses more targets than it hits. 'Tweekend' is a little like a Jean Claude van Damme movie: big, brash, brainless, occasionally thrilling, but ultimately over the hill.

Neil Gardner

★ ★



## **D\*NOTE** Fuchsia Dog (Channel 4 Recordings)

Matt Quinn makes overly fluffy house album

Just like the Carphone Warehouse, we like to offer our readers impartial advice [We do? – Ed.]. However, when an album is this bad it would be dereliction of duty to just silently grin and bear it while sitting on the spike-ridden fence of impartiality. 'Shed My Skin' and 'Atomised' will probably start alarm bells ringing, as they were used to compliment voice-overs between Channel 4 programmes. 'Fuchsia Dog' conjures up mental images of someone who's having a passionate affair with the Cubase computer programme, laying electro-synthesizer effects under lame guitar riffs. It seems D\*Note has forgotten the age-old rule that what works well with visuals on television doesn't necessarily translate into living room-friendly CD material.

Funke Kugbola

★ ★



## **EDAN** Primitive Plus (Lewis Recordings)

Washington rapper who insists on choosing his own work-wear

Who'd have thought that the future of hip hop could lie in the hands of skinny white kids? Well, not us, but after Eminem's elevation to stadium star and bombs from the likes of Anticon posse and Gonzales, Maryland's Edan stakes his claim with this sniping and hilarious blend of nostalgic futurism. Spreading lyrical bile, A-grade attitude and cynical humour over decidedly lo-fi beats ('Key.Bored's shout-outs are hilarious), 'Primitive Plus' repeatedly kicks corporate rap's butt – 'I'm mentally retarded but I choose my own wardrobe' – while 'You Suck' deserves to be a karaoke classic for morons everywhere. Investigate immediately.

Neil Gardner

★ ★ ★ ★



## **FAULTLINE** Your Love Means Everything (Blanco Y Negro)

Electronic auteur digs into his contacts book with, to put it politely, 'variable' results

"Indie star goes dance" are four of the most terrifying words in the English language. Especially when it's the oddball singer from Coldplay, who appears on avant-electronica act Faultline's (aka David Kosten) new album, warbling a lament in his inimitable wishy-washy style. It gets no better when third rate Thom Yorke impersonator Jacob Golden takes the mic on 'Better Kiss'. However, when Kosten deals with icy desolation, the results are beautiful. 'Theme For Half-Speed' could be Philip Glass, while the Michael Stipe and Flaming Lips collaborations are like show tunes from a macabre musical set in the Siberian tundra. But a spell in the Gulags wouldn't hurt you, Kosten. And take Chris-bloody-Martin with you.

Christian Koch

★ ★



## **LES HOMMES** Les Hommes (Schema)

Jazz without the zzzz

Here at Muzik, we love *The Jazz*. Mmmmm, daddy, how we dig it! Now these cats Les Hommes, they got hep tunes to go – keeping it, ummm, so smooth, dig? Oh yeeeah. The vibes are good, and riff on this, man: the other instruments are cool, too – that's my little jazz joke there, man. It's a city of sound – Paris smooth, London sharp, New York cool, steppin' like a razor through the day, and then as night falls, they got the sounds of the city at sleep and at play – believe it, mummy. But this ain't no snooze, like when Miles in his electric period made that album of one note played on a bazooki over a tape loop of him making sounds in the toilet. Nope, it's a breeze, Denise – *The Jazz* made so even young cats can dig it – yep, even you, junior. Now who got my sweet, sweet brown? I needs ta chill, honey.

Duncan Bell

★ ★ ★



## **PET SHOP BOYS** Release (Parlophone)

Tennant and Lowe stage low-key return to peak form

Phew. There were a lot of anguished glances exchanged among Muzik's cabal of Petties fans when 'Release' was first put on in the office. Its catalogue of failings seemed overwhelming: loadsa rawk guitars, including proper 'waaaaaawww-aaaaaowwwwww' soloing, no

**"With lyrical bile, and cynical humour over lo-fi beats, this repeatedly kicks corporate rap's butt"**

EDAN 'PRIMITIVE PLUS'

- a ditty about shagging Eminem, slyly disguised as a wonderfully sweet song about first love ('The Night I Fell In Love'). Business as usual for the most important British pop group since the Beatles, then.

Duncan Bell  
★★★★★



**RAE & CHRISTIAN**  
**Nocturnal Activity: Sleepwalking Remixed (K7!)**

Mancunian soul merchants get their 'Sleepwalking' set seen to by remix doctors

upbeat disco-party numbers and a song that sounded like Oasis. Had the duo finally lost their marbles, we asked ourselves. How stupid of us. This is an album for late-night blubbing, not office revelry. The best PSBs album since 'Very', and their most mature (in a good way) yet, 'Release' is a triumph; an exquisitely melancholy 45-minute elegy for pop music itself. For despite the best efforts of pop-nonce Simon Cowell and his robotic army of karaoke 'stars', there are people left who know that great pop is about more than a pretty face and a vapid sentiment, and Neil 'n' Chris are their patron saints. So they give us fantastic, catchy tunes, with lyrics on topics such as Soviet soldiers fleeing the red east for the blue lights of 'London', 'E-mail' romance and the long-distance loneliness of modern life ("sometimes we can write down things/That we're too shy to say") and - hey!

If Rae & Christian's second album 'Sleepwalking' has been somewhat overshadowed by the release of Aim's dizzying follow-up to 'Cold Water Music', 'Nocturnal Activity' seeks to put them firmly back in the spotlight, by inviting a selection of well-respected producers to reinterpret the original Fat City album grooves. So you get the likes of Atjazz, Faze Action, Groove Armada, the Nextmen and label mate Only Child dropping by to spice up proceedings with top billing going to Nextmen's floor-busting rerub of 'It Ain't Nothing Like' and the Fazed reworking of 'Hold Us Down'. The suspicion remains, however, that 'Sleepwalking' will come to be seen as Rae & Christian's 'difficult second album', however many remixers they employ.

Cal Gibson  
★★★

Crystal Method come home to discover that their entire house has been stolen. Oh dear



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Slater: Slated



## READY-MADE BOLD (F-Comm)

Another proper LP from the F-Comm stable. Result!

When Jean-Philippe Verdin, aka Readymade, named his debut album 'Bold', he wasn't kidding. Because not only does this give nods to all the major styles of electronic music from electro and drum & bass to techno and house, it also includes bits of pop, jazz, hip hop and leftfield experimentation.

Beatles-style psychedelic flutes, garage-y two-step rhythms, Basic Channel glitches and melody lines borrowed from famous pop songs – it's all here, topped off with a splendid vocal performance by David Sylvian. The obvious downside to this is that it ends up sounding more like a compilation than (scratches chin and tries to look meaningful) an *artist* album. But it's accessible, experimental and optimistic, so who cares? Dave Mothersole

★ ★ ★ ★



## RUISORT Acapulco Now! (Certificate 18)

The Latin-based red-light downtempo movement starts here

Believe it or not, there is such a thing as Mexican electronica and Ruisort is its Peter Kruder – or rather Peter Kruder with a film of sweat across his forehead, cigarette holder wedged between his teeth and a penchant for leering at punters over the top of his piano. Yes, we're talking post-lounge, sleaze-o-louche here, and in an overcrowded market of no-marks you need to be very good to pull it off. Fortunately, Ruisort IS very good. Forthcoming single 'Ipanema 5-0' is an irresistible combination of the aforementioned loungey sleaze, with the Latin sensibility that bubbles beneath the whole album. With superb bass support from Andres Sanchez, even the cover of The Beatles 'And I Love Her' is a seedy comedown classic, although perhaps they should have got Gringo Starr to play drums on it too. Ho ho!

Andrew Holmes

★ ★ ★ ★



## A SMALL GOOD THING Slim Westerns

Volume 2 (Leaf)

The best things come in small, good packages

Unsurprisingly, the follow-up to 'Slim Westerns Volume 1', sees A Small Good Thing continue to plough their Ennio Morricone-meets-Fridge furrow with almost sublime skill. While the trio (a gas fitter from Hull, film editor from London and psychiatric nurse from Leeds) are clearly in thrall to Morricone, they're clearly just as fond of the unsettling sound-works of, say,

The Texas Chainsaw Massacre or Eraserhead. Elsewhere, 'El Mariachi Loco' sounds exactly as its title would suggest, while the later 'Sleep Of The Dust' is ambient like it used to be: minimal, atmospheric and a little bit scary. Truly inspired and diverse mood music, then – the begging letters from people wanting them to soundtrack a *real* film are surely just a trip to the Post Office away.

Andrew Holmes

★ ★ ★ ★



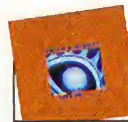
## LUKE SLATER Alright On Top (Mute)

The sleeve has Luke Slater dressed as an orange ice hockey player in a stereotypical Seventies room. With the lead singer of The Aloof. 'Nuff said Look, it's not resentment that he hasn't hammered out another difficult hunk of weirdness like 1999's 'Wireless'. It's not a desire to hark back to the carefully carved 4/4 floor mayhem of his pre-Mute Peacefrog days. It's simply that 'Alright On Top' is plain wrong. The main listening difficulty can be summed up in two words – 'Ricky Barrow'. He was ace on much of former band The Aloof's output, but here, his urban soul groan manages to turn perfectly decent Slater backing tracks into sub-Underworld rockist nonsense. Tracks like 'You Know What I Mean' or 'Only You' hint at the strange avant-funk of Super\_Collider but, even on the delicious Eighties pastiche 'Stars And Heroes' it never really gels. Basically, it sounds like a forced "now I'm going to cross over" statement. Not with this you ain't. Thomas H Green

★ ★

**"Minimal, atmospheric and a little bit scary, this is truly inspired mood music"**

A SMALL GOOD THING 'SLIM WESTERNS VOLUME 2'



## SMITH & MIGHTY Life Is (IK7)

Chill out veterans continue to vanish into severely over-ploughed furrow

Smith & Mighty have been turning out records in their dubby/techno-y/hip hoppy vein for what feels like about 100 years now. In that time, they've done some very good tunes, although, alas, we can't remember what any of them were called, as we were invariably bongoed on chronic, spliff and reefer at the time of listening. They've been in the shadow of Massive Attack ever since 'Blue Lines', and not, as their small but devoted following would claim, because Massive were trip hop Johnny-come-latelys who nicked all their ideas, but because Massive Attack are much, much better at making records of a dubby/techno-y/hip hoppy bent. This record smells of late career desperation and evaporated ideas, with a vibe redolent of the sort of community music workshop that you might expect to see Cherie Blair visiting dressed in a sari. And no amount of people going "shack out!", followed by sub-Dido diva emoting is going to convince us otherwise, frankly.

Duncan Bell

★ ★

## DIGGING DEEPER

# CAN DANCE MUSIC ARTISTS MAKE ALBUMS?

Everyone knows dance music revolves around singles. Problem is, albums are where the *real* money is. But can dance artists take a full length?

**S**uddenly, everyone's releasing albums. Big name artists who've built a reputation on singles are spending time in the studio to put out their Big Album. Why? Here's a sobering statistic: the average 12-inch single sells around 6,000 copies. Given the amount of money spent on marketing by a major label, that's not a great long-term investment. Signing an artist for a five-single deal is not the way forward for anyone.

So change is afoot. Ministry Of Sound – often the best barometer for these things – are rumoured to

have signed a one album deal with electro tarts Fisherspooner worth what accountants are calling 'shitloads of dosh'.

Ministry aren't alone. Skint have signed X-Press 2 for a six-album deal and XL have made a similar move with Layo & Bushwacka!. Fresh artist albums from Timo Maas, Tiesto and Cass & Slide are all in your friendly neighbourhood record store now. Some of them – Timo in particular – look likely to sell pretty well.

"The singles game is more about market share than artist

Fisherspooner: Look like a million dollars?



development," says Max Lousada, who's guiding Timo's career over at Mushroom Records and is the man behind the success of Zero 7. "I would like to see a situation where if two singles weren't hits, an artist wouldn't get dropped. At the moment, record companies want a

quick return and that is a problem."

Quick return or not, it remains to be seen whether labels like Ministry can recoup on big advances paid to artists like Fisherspooner. When you play with dance albums now, you have to play the waiting game.

## SINGLE LIFE

Three great singles artists that have never quite pulled off a good album

- 1 Armand Van Helden**  
Great singles, deeply terrible albums. Especially the last one, which still hasn't surfaced commercially on FFRR yet.
- 2 Paul Van Dyk**  
'For An Angel' blew us away but 'Out There And Back' bored us senselezzz.
- 3 Derrick May**  
As legendary for his slow work rate as for his music, the techno originator has never actually got round to making an album.

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# Albums



Su-Paka-Pooh, a *baiku* (bless you!):  
"Shimmering on ivory page/  
The review of my CD/  
Has stars/  
That number four"



## SQUARE ONE Round One (Freerange)

Deep houseiness from a former purveyor of breaks

In a previous incarnation, Square One's Mark Wadsworth traded in glacial nu-funk breaks under the name of Yennah. As Square One he's now shifted his emphasis somewhat and booty-bumped his sound towards the Naked/Toko deep house axis, while retaining the musical suss and sharp production values of his earlier work. All of which means that 'Round One' is a foxy little minx of an album, from the creamy vocal massage of 'Need To Know' to the quadraphonic throwdown 'Sippy', it's a cool, calm collection of well-crafted phunkerage. So, 'Round One': it's a knockout.

Cal Gibson

★ ★ ★



## SU-PAKA-POOH Sunny Side Garden

(Disorient)

Japanese housers drop an ace debut maxi

The buzz on Su-Paka-Pooh (which

## "A foxy little minx of an album, full of well-crafted phunkerage"

SQUARE ONE 'ROUND ONE'

we're guessing means 'the lonely warrior who dangles his feet in the cherry blossom on the river' in Japanese. Possibly. . .) has been building in underground house circles for a couple of years now. Through limited edition twelve such as the marvellous 'Aya' on Tokyo's finest imprint, Flower, their loose, organic, jazzual swing has been a staple at clubs like Body & Soul, and now their debut longplayer gets a well-deserved European release courtesy of Disorient. With highlights including recent single 'Muzika' and their suitably deranged cover of 'Theme De Yo-Yo', if you're going to buy one Japanese house album this year make it this one [High praise! - Ed.].

Cal Gibson

★ ★ ★ ★



## TRAM A Kind Of Closure (Setanta)

Top acoustic chill for the temazepam and razors crowd 'A Kind Of Closure'? Even the title is couched in the language of therapy, bringing to mind images of New York intellectuals ending traumatic relationships. But while the album is brimful of lines concerning "searching for a dying passion" set to spartan country & western-tinged guitars, the duo of Paul Anderson and Nick Avery aren't from the good ol' US of A, they're from bleedin' London. Imagine the string section from 'Exile On Main Street' narrowed down to one violin by an arranger whose hearing has been distorted by morphine. Imagine also that this sound was accompanied by precise yet lethargic strumming and nasal singers mournfully intoning their woes through a haze of horse. That is the sound of Tram. Quality suicide music, in fact, which tells the noisy crowds to go away so that it can lock itself up alone, play even slower, and ponder, with inevitable gloom, what further miseries fate may hold. What japes!

Thomas H Green

★ ★ ★

# CORNERSHOP



HANDCREAM

FOR A GENERATION

'Handcream For A Generation feels like spring is here again' - *Mojo* (Album of the month)

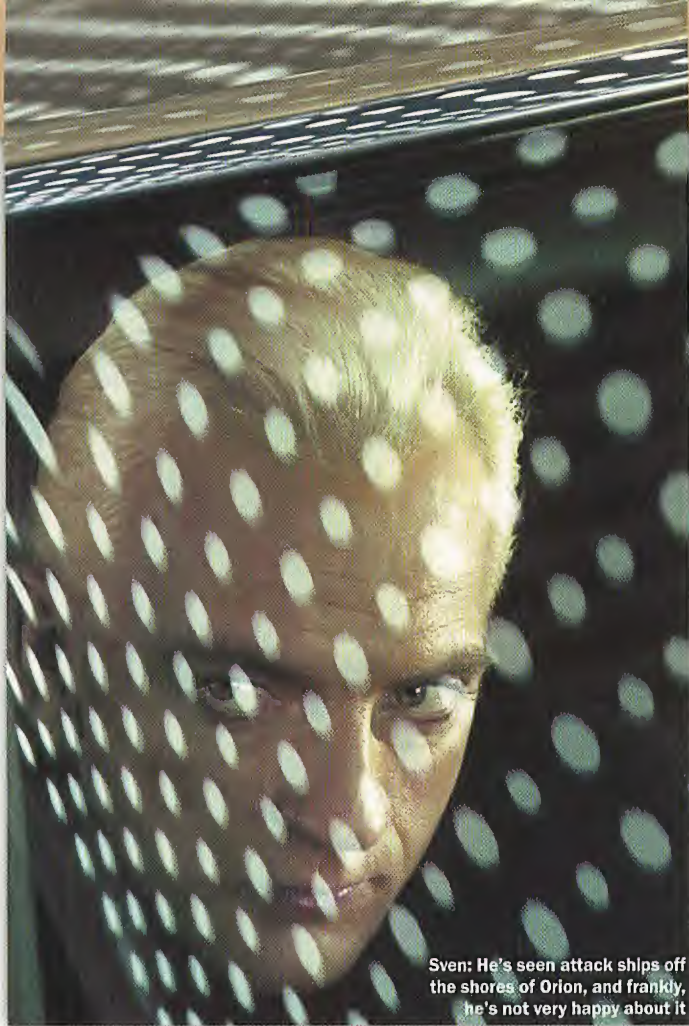
'[Cornershops] forthcoming album confirms them as the most vital and inventive force at work in British pop music today' - *Saturday Telegraph*

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Sven: He's seen attack ships off the shores of Orion, and frankly, he's not very happy about it



## SVEN VATH

Fire (Virgin)

Vath till you see what Sven's got up his techno sleeves. . .

**S**ven Vath wouldn't 'Do Us A Tape' because he felt his true artistic vision for 'Fire' couldn't be fully represented in such a magazine format. Cheeky sod! So Muzik got the hump, threw his album in the bin and thought no more about it. Who does he think he is anyway?

Until we put 'Fire' on again a few days later and were reminded that he is, of course, one of Europe's premier and most charismatic exponents of techno. Has been ever since he was responsible for foisting trance (Post-Acid House Version 1.1) on the world back in 1991-2, in fact. Those days are long gone, but Sven has happily left his wanderings in the post-

trance wilderness behind too, as well as his 'I'm-not-trance-I'm-serious-me' minimal Detroit looped beats phase.

So now he's perfectly placed to be embraced by new electro trendies (he was playing I-F's 'Space Invaders Are Smoking Grass' when the companies putting out most of the compilations it currently features on hadn't even been conceived). Any man who can place a preposterous electro-pop version of Serge Gainsbourg's already ridiculous 'Je T'Aime. . . Moi Non Plus' right next to the solid techno (with train whistle) of this album's title track is alright by us.

'Mind Games', a single in Europe, is typical – "Flirting with madness, I make my brain spin", run the lyrics, tongue firmly in cheek, like a danceable electro-

tech version of 'They're Coming To Take Me Away, Ha Ha'.

Most of the album, however, is boshing techno and more techno – check the melodic X-Files synths on 'Design Music', unless you have a headache. Ending with a Basic Channel-style number called 'Heisse Scheibe' and a hidden track, the quality throughout ensures Vath washes away any residual memory of his terrible 'Harlequin And Robot Ape Dance In Fractal Hyperspace' concept horror. In fact, although DJs will find more use for it than living room stereo systems, 'Fire' contains the combustible German's best work since 'Accident In Paradise'. Sure to sell more copies than The Bible in Germany, it might even help reinvigorate techno over here.

Thomas H Green

★★★★

# ADAM F PRESENTS KAOS



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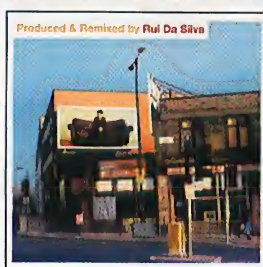


## DJ Vibe International Grooves Volume 1

Label: Intergroove  
Cat No: IGUKCD001-2, IGUKLP001-3  
Format: CD and 2 x Vinyl LP

Intergroove kick things off with a killer mix album from Portugal's DJ Vibe. One of the leading underground dance music distribution companies, Intergroove have launched with a mix from one of Europe's finest DJs. After two previous DJ Vibe mix albums became cult releases after only being released in Portugal, International Grooves Volume 1 is DJ Vibe's first domestic album release and a chance for many to hear one of the best DJs around for the very first time. Keepin' The Vibe Alive! After years of Vibe tearing up dancefloors around

the globe, International Grooves Volume 1 finally gives him the chance to document his incredible style, taste and technical proficiency. This mix brings together some unreleased gems. An exclusive 2002 remix of the seminal 'So Get Up' from Underground Sound Of Lisbon nestles next to a special Vibe remix of PIMP's 'The Light' and the forthcoming Junior delight 'Come Together' by that Kid Chris. Over an hour of driving dancefloor dynamics from one of the finest exponents in the business. Vibe all the way.



## Produced and Remixed by Rui Da Silva

Label: Kismet  
Cat No: KMIA1  
Format: 2 CD and Vinyl LP

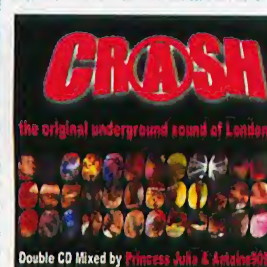
Rui Da Silva has long been recognized as one of Portugal's most precious exports. Rui's debut record in 1992 'So Get Up' was experimental, to say the least but spawned a new unique sound that has enticed music lovers of all genres. Rui left Portugal and relocated to London in 1999 for more musical inspiration, which led him to setting up Kismet Records. Rui was nominated as 'Best Breakthrough artist' at this year's Dancestar awards from his highly acclaimed number 1 hit single 'Touch Me'. This remix album will be able to present not only some of Rui's best remixes and originals, and to add there is also a few unreleased gems. Among the selection are new mixes from artists such as Kel' A (former member of Sneaker Pimps), and a collaboration with Terry Farley as Ocean Men and up and coming new talent, Ben Onono to name just a few. Other highlights include Rui's mixes of Bedrocks - 'Beautiful Strange', Brother Love Dubs - 'I-800', Ming and Double 99 feat The Sneaker Pimps - '7th High'.



## Torture Chamber Vol:2 mixed by Umek

Label: Tortured  
Cat No: Paincd002  
Format: CD

To many record buyers and clubbers, this would be a frightening proposition. However, Umek has done what very few DJs have managed with mix CDs and delivered an eclectic blend that never strays into the punishing, relentless territory that troubles so many techno mixes. Torture Chamber 2 retains the universal funk that has made Umek a DJ globally in demand. Torture Chamber 2 was mixed live on 3 decks. Technically, the speed and skill of the mixing is unsurpassed. Using the effects unit on the Pioneer DJM 600 mixer Umek has performed tricks that have hitherto remained the domain of mixes completed using protocols. The electrickery enables Umek to seamlessly blend the usually oil and water sounds of Tresor and Subliminal, or Honchos and Tortured. Tortured boss Billy Nasty states simply that in his travels as a DJ over the last 10 years Umek is the most exciting, technically brilliant DJ he has come across. High praise indeed from the man who brought us the first DJ mix album.



## Crash: The Original Underground Sound of London - Mixed by Antoine909 & Princess Julia

Label: Southeast Recordings  
Cat No: CRA 01  
Format: CD

One of London clubland's rising stars releases its first compilation on double CD mixed by Antoine909 and Princess Julia. Antoine909's 'mainroom meltdown' mix features Crash's trademark dark 'n' dirty tribal house music while gay scene icon Princess Julia mixes up the house and disco beats for the boys (and girls!).

If you need a reminder of why house music mattered in the first place, right now Crash is the place to start. One of Britain's best new clubs. Muzik Magazine



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SOMA 10

## THE THREE BIG ONES



### SOULFUL BEHAVIOUR

(Defunked)

While Renegade Hardware et al are busy making the most venomous boy's own techno-jungle racket, and Andy C et al serve up the chewiest, bounciest cyberfunk around, there's been another sound steadily growing on the drum & bass scene. Some call it 'liquid' and its primary exponent is the Defunked label, whose wares are here showcased by DJ Addiction.

Returning to the original

Chicago vocal house blueprint, the cuddly, warm, loved-up vibe of 'Soulful Behaviour' starts from a smooth musical bed of beats and bass, from where girly singing gently caresses your spine. And while each Defunked 12-inch was embraced by DJs like Fabio and nights like Movement, heard en masse, they're a whole different proposition.

'Soulful Behaviour' is a wake-up call for those who've grown too used to cod-r&b UK garage masquerading as 'soulful'. Defunked's stuff really does have the 's' word. As well as employing women who can sing, rather than

the usual someone's-mate-who-can-squawk, the likes of Razor, Blue Sonix and Fellowship work the groove relentlessly.

King of the pile, though, is Carlito, who's all over 'Soulful Behaviour' like a rash. 'So Liquid', 'and 'Supergass' shine so bright that it can only be so long before this crew storm their way to wider popularity. Accessible drum & bass used to owe a little too much to George Benson, but now 'Soulful Behaviour' paves the way for a style that sits between classic Trax and classic Motown. (THG)

★★★★★

### FUTURISM

(City Rockers)

2002 is already turning into a delicious metropolitan cacophony. Otherworldly synth boffins are exploring the deepest recesses of the subconscious as a thousand sunglasses-clad clubbers nod approvingly. Overt optimism, however, is entirely optional.

City Rockers understand this attitude more than most. Set up by Phil Howells - Pete Tong's old right-ear man at FFRR - the five opening cuts of 'Futurism'

spell out their manifesto in bright red neon. Satisfyingly seedy, this is a dusty, half-lit sign that's travelled back to London via the backstreets of New York and Berlin.

Here, Felix Da Housecat's 'Silver Screen' segues effortlessly into Tiga & Zyntherius' 'Sunglasses At Night' - electro's answer to 'Knights Of The Jaguar' - before the moody sleaze of Dexter's 'I Don't Care' and the techno of Green Velvet's 'La La Land' and Tok Tok Versus Soffy O's 'Missy Queen Gonna Die' career into view. On CD2, Ladytron, Fischerspooner and Peaches

all make strangely alluring shapes in the corner - some slightly ruder than others.

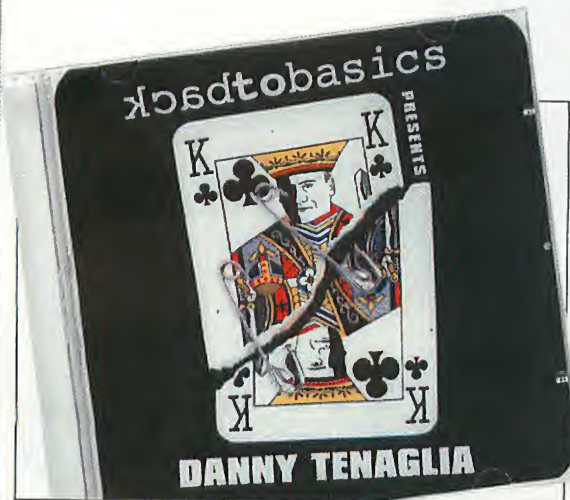
'Futurism' succeeds because it sees far further than the confines of City Rockers' own, admittedly excellent, imprint. Who else would exhume Kernkraft 400's 'Zombie Nation' as an example of a scene on the ascendant?

Bristling with attitude, 'Futurism' is the smartest way to experience the eclectic scene. Hell, it's even mixed so you can dance to it at home. What will they think of next? (RM)

★★★★★

### FUTURISM.

Article 1. Section 1(a).  
A state wherein 2 or more similarly attired individuals dedicated to shifting identities and the challenge of modernistic aesthetic values, form revolutionary inspired groups with assumed various social/political objectives. Aided by repetitive vibrations of an Electro/synthetic button pushing nature (something of a bleep bleep bleep drum machines and the like) it represents a radical departure from the previous regulatory movements incorporating many of the additional elements adopted from non-electronically enthused instrumentation. Epoch reflective, its discotheque reverberations adds backbone to the cause against the prohibitive notions so prevalent in more sanitised expressionistic formulas (see appendix section 2).



### BACK TO BASICS PRESENTS DANNY TENAGLIA

(React)

Some might say the awe in which Danny Tenaglia is held is a bit silly, given that he makes most of his living by playing other people's records one after the other. We say "away with you" to such people.

While most of the world's DJing muppets think that

eclectic is what they plug their decks into, Danny T's willingness to mix genres is a breath of sweet air. That his ear for tunes isn't bad and his ear for the best order to play them in is unsurpassed, makes him worth all the bum-licking, in our book.

On this mix, done to celebrate 10 years of Back To Basics, the bald one moves from Dubtribe Sound System's very lovely pop-house to melodic techno by unsavory French type, The Hacker. On the way, Tenaglia co-opts everything from purist house/garage to Tom Stephan's high-octane ('The

Revolution') to sublimely bubbling trance (Sapphire Cut's 'Free Your Mind', which stirs the ghost of Orbital's nonpareil 'Belfast'), as well as the propulsive, metal-on-metal robo-voodoo chuggers for which he's most renowned.

The end result is two and a half hours of home-listening, dancefloor-derived bliss. Along with recent mix CDs by Derrick Carter and our own Dr Bob Jones, it should make lovers of music with a little more depth than '12-Inches Of Pleasure Mixed By DJ Kunt' feel quite a bit less put upon than usual. (DB)

★★★★★

# recommended



RELEASED 22.04.02

## BEBER & TAMRA - SUITE BEAT BOY

Breakbeat boy wonder and sometime BT collaborator ropes in vocalist Tamra for his debut album release on Fabric fave Tayo's Mob imprint. Features the excellent singles Travelling On and You Wonder. "2002 looks certain to deliver this dynamic duo their big break." **D**

buy now: [www.hmv.co.uk](http://www.hmv.co.uk) or 08705 334578



RELEASED 22.04.02

## FELIX DA HOUSECAT - EXCURSIONS

Last years Muzik Best Album winner and man of the moment Felix Da Housecat gets let loose on a collection of favourites that show off his unique style, including tracks from Ladytron, Jeff Mills, Dot Allison and his partner in rhyme Miss Kitten.

All titles and prices are subject to availability at participating stores.

top dog for music



## DJ Vibe International Grooves Volume 1



DJ Vibe, one of Europe's finest DJ's, and one half of production duo Underground Sound of Lisbon with chart topper Rui da Silva, delivers over an hours excursion into the sound of Portugese house on this, InterGroove's debut mix CD.

Featuring an exclusive 2002 remix of Underground Sound of Lisbon's 'So get up', Vibe's own remake of PIMP's 'The Light' and the forthcoming 'Come Together' by That Kid Chris on Junior this will be a classic mix album.

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Rul Da Silva: Cheer up mate, you've got three stars



## AMERICAN GIGOLO MIXED BY DJ TIGA

(International DeeJay Gigolos)

**What's it all about?** DJ Hell's label compiles some of this newfangled nu-electro we're reading so much about these days.

**What's on it?** Ever heard the expression 'Too many electro tunes spoil the compilation'? No, nor have we – especially when they include the likes of Tiga & Zynthierus' 'Sunglasses At Night', Miss Kittin & The Hacker banging on about Frank Sinatra being doobie-doobie-dead in the necrophiliac anthem 'Frank Sinatra', Mitsu with 'Slylight' and Christopher Just's Robocop-vocalled 'I'm A Disco Dancer'.

**Any cop then?** Nu-electro, synthcore, electroclash... call it what you will, this rocks like a bastard. (FK) ★ ★ ★



## KEEP IT TIDY 3: 2000-2002 (Tidy Trax)

**What's it all about?** A triple CD of boshmunged hard house for the young and headstrong, and the shaven-headed and old enough to know better.

**What's on it?** Highlights of the Tidy catalogue from the last three years, mixed by The Tidy Boys, Lee Haslam, and someone called Spencer G. But it's not as bad as you might think...

**Any cop then?** CD1 of this we found literally unlistenable, so hyperactively Sunny Delight-spazmoed was it. But Lee Haslam's disc, though equally silly, is highly enjoyable – sometimes, you just can't beat the pleasure of 'sassy' vocal samples, cartoon 'Sproiliings!!' and baseball bat beats. CD3, to our amazement, contains what can only be described as house music, later moving into experimental-but-fun techno – which was almost as nice a surprise as Thatcher's retirement. (DB) ★ ★ ★



## SUNDAY BEST 3 (Sunday Best)

**What's it all about?** Sunday Best bring you yet another chill out record. The gimmick this time is that it's actually worth listening to. Hoorah! **What's on it?** The 'Classics' disc includes the Cocteau Twins, Sunday Brunch's lovely 'Midsummer Day' and, um, Glen Campbell, Steve Miller and Fleetwood Mac. A second CD features exclusive mixes of usual suspects Roykopp, Kinobe and the like.

**Any cop then?** An undeniably cool selection, but this MOR thing has definitely got to stop. What next? 'Relax With REO Speedwagon'? (NG) ★ ★ ★



## SVEK Defender (Svek/Goldhead)

**What's it all about?** More warm house grooves from the frozen North, courtesy of Stephan Grieder's acclaimed Svek label.

**What's on it?** Swedish house may not have the kudos of its French or Norwegian counterparts, but these minimal, jazz-flavoured beats will make a splash too. Chris J and Forme nestle alongside the better known Sunday Brunch, but it's mostly the work of Jesper Dahlback under a variety of pseudonyms.

**Any cop then?** Some of this is so laid back it's almost soporific – but it's a generally intriguing smorgasbord of sounds. (NG) ★ ★ ★



## YOUSEF IN THE MIX (DMC)

**What's it all about?** Cheeky Scouse scamp and Radio 1 and Cream resident guides us through a two-CD live mix that spans jackin' neo-Chicago house and skewed sambatronica.

**What's on it?** House cuts more infectious than herpes, including Joeski & Omar's 'Be There For Me', Alexander East's majestic 'Jest For Me', and Derrick L Carter's 'Where U At'. But it's the Latin-flavoured tracks that really show off Yousef's exemplary taste – the Bontempi cha-cha of Rick Preston's 'Deep Fried Chal' and the Peruvian pan-pipe madness that is Johnny Fiasco's 'Chicano's Groove', which sounds like Shakira being strangled in a voodoo ceremony.

**Any cop then?** Yep. Scouse music all night long! (CK) ★ ★ ★



## PRODUCED & REMIXED BY RUI DA SILVA

(Kismet)

**What's it all about?** Two CDs' worth of Rui's best moments alongside a few new bits. No mixing, no gimmicks, just Rui.

**What's on it?** Some original Rui ('Touch Me', 'Matrix', 'Earth'), lots of Rui's mixes ('Beautiful Strange', 'Obeah Dance', 'Chinz Ninja') and the new Rui single, 'Stoned'.

**Any cop then?** It's an awful lot of Rui for one sitting, but that's fine, because at the end of the day, no one does that deep house/trance thing quite as well as he does. (RM) ★ ★ ★



## RENNIE PILGEM - TRIBALISM (TCR)

**What's it all about?** TCR's head honcho Pilgrem drops a 73-minute salvo of breaks smothered in bass so penetrating, you'll think that Satan is trying to communicate with you.

**What's on it?** All the usual suspects who have helped mould the breaks scene into its current 'whip the crowd into a frenzy' state, including Koma & Bones ('Morpheus'), Kosheen ('Hide U'), Vigi & Zero ('Others'), along with

a few Pilgrem collaborations, the best being with BLIM on 'Monkfish'.

**Any cop then?** This is so versatile it should silence those cynical critics who reckon that breaks tunes all sound the same. (FK) ★ ★ ★



## JOESKI & ONIONZ: NU-YORK NITE LIFE

(NRK)

**What's it all about?** Onionz & Joeski turn up on more Bedroom Bedlam mixes than anyone else – you can't get much higher praise than that. Now, with like-minded souls NRK, they've put together a mix of their own.

**What's on it?** Joeski favours moody, sexy, dubby dancefloor cuts like Jay Tripwire's 'Deep Rumbler' and Rob Rives' mix of Akabu's 'Ride The Storm'. Onionz, meanwhile, offers a more soulful side to house: Ron Trent's mix of Batodos' 'Tengo Sed' and Mr G's 'My Farther's Farda' both sizzle deliciously in the mix.

**Any cop then?** If Yousef's sets at Cream have flicked your switch then check out his American equivalents for two hours of after-hours mischief. (RM) ★ ★ ★



## SOMA 10 - ANTHOLOGY (Soma)

**What's it all about?** After a decade at the top, Soma obviously aren't afraid to show off their family heirlooms – but then, when such artifacts include Daft Punk, Funk D'Void and Scott Grooves, who are we to argue? Well, it beats taking them to The Antiques Roadshow.

**What's on it?** Daft Punk's still-essential 'Music' preens and struts like a heavily filtered cyber-peacock, Bangalter and Hee-Hong-de-Phwa-Phwa's take on Scott Grooves' 'Mothership Reconnection' is a multi-faceted groove diamond, and one listen to Funk D'Void's 'Diabla' will remind you why it was Coxy's favourite cut of 2001. 'Positive Education' and tracks from Maas, 20:20 Vision and Silicone Soul are equally enticing.

**Any cop then?** You betcha. Southern softies will just have to continue to grind their teeth with envy at the fact that the UK's premier techno label is way, way up north... (RM) ★ ★ ★



## BLADE II OST (Virgin)

**What's it all about?** Dance sidles up to hip hop and offers to hold its gun, if hip hop will provide some 'dope flows' for dance's 'having it choons'.

**What's on it?** Fatboy Slim and Groove Armada provide elastic beats for Eve and Trina & Rah Digga respectively, Ice Cube brutally guns down original hip hop head Oakey (not literally, before you get over-excited) and Roni Size gives Cypress Hill their first decent beats for aeons. But best of all, there's a new Massive Attack track, with Mos Def tightrope-walking on a taut, 'Mezzanine'-style backing that's predictably both excellent and blacker than coal.

**Any cop then?** Probably more enjoyable than the vampires, guns and kung-fu nonsense it will accompany, this nonetheless hovers just shy of being necessary. Next time, how about Dre of Outkast over Renegade Hardware hammer beats or MOP over Autechre glitches? (DB) ★ ★ ★



## GODSKITCHEN 3: LIFE (INCredible)

**What's it all about?** CD triptych designed to replicate an evening's frivolities at the evangelically named Midlands club. For Billy No-mates who are into vicarious clubbing and larging it in their front rooms, presumably.

**What's on it?** Three and a half sweat-sodden hours of 'intelligent' trance anthems like 'Headstrong' by Tilt Featuring Maria Taylor, Yves Deruyter and a tribal reworking of DB Boulevard's ubiquitous 'Point Of View'. Starts off on a Euro-trancey tip on CD1, gets arms aloftly euphoric on CD2 before consolidating Godskitchen's bang-core credentials on CD3.

**Any cop then?** Weeell, it may eschew all traces of cheese and segue like a dream, but it's hardly an inventive mix. (CK) ★ ★ ★



## MUTINY PRESENTS SOUTHSIDE TIDAL WAVES

(Sunflower)

**What's it all about?** Mutiny compile the cream of their back catalogue with one eye on the dancefloor and the other on the talented folk who live near their doorstep in Brixton. No, not the ones with big guns.

**What's on it?** Mutiny remind us why they're a DJing superduo waiting to happen with that thundering Inland Knights mix of 'Shake It' by Floris, 'To Fly Is My Wish' and 'New Horizon', while Agent Sumo's canny re-rub of Freeman's 'Green Tea' is an exercise in real basement jacking.

**Any cop then?** Definitely. Bereft of the filler that so often clogs up your compilation collection, this 11-track set fills up its 67 minutes with panache and big skills. (RM) ★ ★ ★

# Compilations



## MIGUEL MIGSO: NUDE TEMPO 01 (Virgin/Naked Music)

**What's it all about?** The not ugly deep house DJ from San Fran delivers Naked's first offering in a new, ingeniously titled, series.

**What's on it?** Regular winners in the competitive arena of house, including Blue Six with 'Love Yourself', Discorados with 'Get Down' and Andy Caldwell's vocally fabulous 'I Can't Wait'. Showing that his talents don't just lie in the DJing department, Miguel slips in one of his own, 'You Bring Me Up', for good measure.

**Any cop?** Though the words 'slow down on the production front' come to mind when one thinks of Naked Music, thanks to Migso they've still managed to create an aesthetically pleasing sound, mixed by an aesthetically pleasing DJ. (FK)

★ ★ ★



## THE STORY SO FAR... MIXED BY THE SECRET WEAPONS (Subliminal)

**What's it all about?** Erick Morillo's impossibly cool Subliminal imprint offloads a three-CD set mixed by the Secret Weapon squad – Richard F, Jose Nunez and Melvin Moore.

**What's on it?** Everything from seedy disco-house by Ministers De La Funk and Constipated Monkeys to contemporary funksters like Ghetto Tears and Harry 'Choo Choo' Romero.

**Any cop then?** Richard F ignites a post-Miami carnival on CD1, while sets from Jose Nunez and Melvin Moore are a byword for slinky NYC cool. Muted jazz guitars and Nu Yorican beatz abound, while Harrison Crump's 'Get Boogie' features an improv jazz choir, a sample which sounds like Sesame Street's Cookie Monster getting amorous like Barry White, and a groove so oily you could wear it in your hair like Brylcreem. If you so desired. (CK)

★ ★ ★ ★

## "A groove so oily, you could wear it in your hair like Brylcreem"

'THE STORY SO FAR... MIXED BY THE SECRET WEAPONS' (SUBLIMINAL)

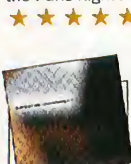


## MAXIM'S DE PARIS (Pschent)

**What's it all about?** A very, very posh venue in the French capital, all fashion darlings and It girls, lets us plebs wrap our ears round two CDs of the tunes that residents Albert de Paname and Felix drop of an evening.

**What's on it?** A fine mix of deep house, ancient flamenco, salsa, Latin, easy listening, techno-soul and much more, from all over the shop – Tim 'Love' Lee, Les Hommes, Model 500, Gerd, Ashley Beedle, Vaya Con Dios, even Pierre Cardin – all blended in the most exquisitely stylish manner.

**Any cop then?** A breath of fresh air, joyously innovative funky fun, and if we weren't so damned ugly and poor we'd be on the first Eurostar under the Channel to make our presence felt amongst the iridescent stars of the Paris nightlife. Ah well... (THG)



## SWAYZAK [GROOVE-TECHNOLOGY V1.3] (IK7/Groovetech)

**What's it all about?** London's always-the-bridesmaid-never-the-bride techno/electronica producers drop a two CD selection of dubby and largely German avant-garde techno.

**What's on it?** Underground types like Herbert, Basic Channel, Monolake, Bitstream, Akufen and Berlin's first lady, Ellen Allien.

**Any cop then?** If you've a decent pair of bassbins, like a spliff or 12, and want to add some frowning Teuton spirit to your old King Tubby records, this is the one for you. (THG)

★ ★ ★



## THE HARDER THEY COME MIXED BY GROOVERIDER (Renegade Hardware)

**What's it all about?** Fresh from bruising the eardrums of the nation with his 'Essential Rewindz' set, Grooverider continues his Renegade Hardware association for this aptly titled two-CD mix.

**What's on it?** Bad Company, of course, but drum & bassheads finally seem to have accepted that they're on another level and stopped trying to copy them. So this mix is a good variety of punishing subterranean bass and mental jungle, and the Grooverider chucks in enough classics like Usual Suspects' 'Killa Bees' and Ink & Dylan's 'Need You Now' to keep most d&b ears happy.

**Any cop then?** CD2's emphasis on gruelling fast breaks make it one for the faithful only. Common-or-garden fans would be advised to plump for CD1, which boasts stealthy, muscular funk that's odds-on to scratch the most scabrous d&b itch. (AH)

★ ★ ★ ★



## MJ COLE – BACK TO MINE (DMC)

**What's it all about?** DMC have administered a dash of 'care in the DJ community', recruiting ailing garage producer MJ Cole to mix the latest in their formidable 'Back To Mine' series.

**What's on it?** A superb palette, containing just a hint of MJ's own material in the form of 'Sincere'. There's also The Commodores with their mega hit 'Zoom', along with LTJ Bukem's 'Music' and Borodin String Quartet with 'Ravel's String Quartet in F Major (Tres Lent Excerpt)' – naturally.



Onlonz, with his mates Carrotz, Turnlpz and Butternut Squashez just out of shot

**Any cop then?** Deffo. DMC maintain label credibility, while MJ Cole gets to remind everyone that he's not dead. Result! (FK)

★ ★ ★



## CREAM EN EL MAR – PUNTA DEL ESTE (Virgin)

**What's it all about?** Cream En El Mar translates as 'Cream lies on the beach and makes the rest of you feel bad about your pathetic, boring, unglamorous nine-to-five lives and charges you over a tenner for the privilege' [Are you sure? – Ed.]. This edition – the first in a series – sees them reclining on a beach in Uruguay.

**What's on it?** Sun-kissed tunes, obviously, but if the theme is tenuous then at least the music's not bad. The computer mixing CD1, for example, moves nicely from Roysopp's drowsy 'Poor Leno' to the rather more raucous '@ Night' by CocoDaSilva, and CD2 has some awesome tracks, all with ridiculously long titles like The Tarantella: Redanka Dub Mix Of 'MindCircus' By Way Out West. Featuring Tricia Lee Kelshall.

**Any cop then?** Despite aiming to be the last word in prog, this actually zips by rather nicely with some cool mid-set peaks. Bring it on, Uruguay! (AH)

★ ★ ★



## THE ROUGH GUIDE TO PARIS CAFE MUSIC (World Music Network)

**What's it all about?** An epic and ambitious collection of the kind of tunes you're likely to hear while

glugging vin ordinaire at the very best Parisian cabs. Accordion fans, tent your trousers. Everybody else, beware.

**What's on it?** Plenty of blokes called things like Jean Corti, Michel Macais, and Emile Vacher, who, by and large, wield a mean accordion and bang on about l'amour and stuff (probably). Edith Piaf makes an appearance, too, but then she would, wouldn't she?

**Any cop then?** It's lovingly compiled and boasts excellent sleeve notes. But unless you're compiling a mix tape for a day trip to Calais or genuinely love the mournful sound of the accordion, it's likely to grind your privates somewhat. (AH)

★ ★ ★



## CRASH: THE ORIGINAL UNDERGROUND SOUND OF LONDON (Southeast)

**What's it all about?** London's current hottest club hijacks the mix compilation bandwagon, using Princess Julia and the very lovely Antoine 909 as getaway drivers.

**What's on it?** The tribal house/progressive mix that the club has made its own, blending in everyone from Junior Sanchez to 16b to Robbie Rivera to Superchumbo. However, although the controls are set for maximum chug, the whole thing never quite seems to lift off.

**Any cop then?** Turn down the lights, invite a lot of gay bodybuilders round, then put on these CDs and soak up that authentic Crash atmos at home. But only if you want the sound of Crash at low volume, on a night when the DJs have left all their best records at home. Disappointing. (DB)

★ ★

### DIGGING DEEPER

## GOING GLOBAL

World music isn't all about Peter Gabriel over-producing a bunch of Mongolian yak-herders, you know. Put aside your prejudices and check out the World Music Network. . .

Once he's finished clueing me up on North African club music and the electronica scene in Okinawa ("it's an archipelago off Japan but has its own culture") World

Music Network MD Phil Stanton reveals that the last time he had a dance was with his Colombian wife, Sandra Alayon Stanton, at the World Music Awards ("at Ocean with Damon Albarn

and Johnny Depp presenting"). The Stanton's originally set up World Music Network and artist-based sister label Riverboat in 1994 to take "an intelligent approach" to sounds from around the world. While admitting Muzik's music is not his area of expertise, Phil knows that the deranged rhythms on the likes of 'Rhythm Time: World

Percussion' are a sampler's paradise – the label regularly fields calls from producers wanting to borrow bits. The DJ connection doesn't end there either, as DJ Ritu compiled WMN's 'Bhangra' and 'Bollywood' compilations and Big Chill's Pete Lawrence oversaw 'The Rough Guide To Global Dance'.

Many of WMN's releases

have moments of unhinged audio invention from unlikely places. And for those that want to *really* get their moves sorted for Saturday night, check out 'The Rough Guide To Bellydance'.

All manner of delicious and strange World Music Network compilations are available now, including the 'Rough Guide To Paris Cafe Music'

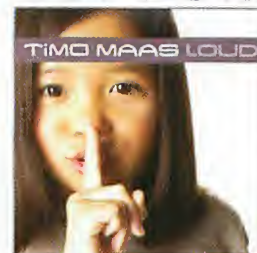
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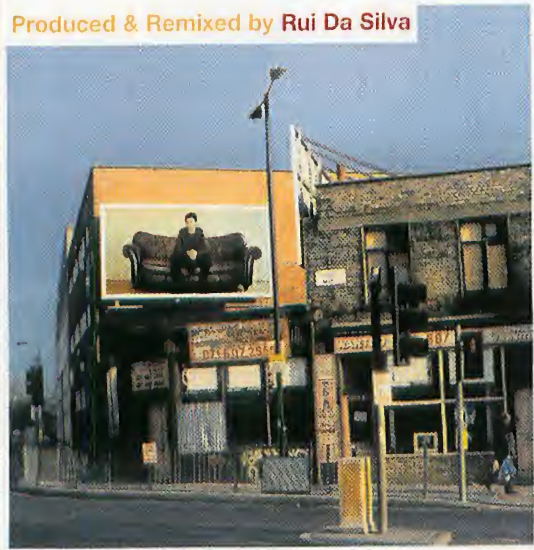
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### REVIEWS BY TERRY FARLEY AND KEVIN McKAY

Sci-fi buffs Terry and Kevin are Muzik's winning combination of youth and experience in the house sphere. Terry was part of the Boy's Own brigade back in the day, while Scottish Kevin runs Glasgow Underground. Tezza's favourite film is ET – "It's a masterpiece of manipulation" – while Kevin plumps for Star Wars, because "it's genius – still captivating 25 years on".



is here again in all its driving, analogue glory. Also on this release is Berardi's remastered 'Plan B', revisiting his tech-edged thriller from a while back. Don't miss out. (KM)

★★★★★

### BLAZE & PALMER BROWN

#### Shine (Nite Grooves)

Shelter stalwarts Blaze and Timmy Regisford provide backing to Palmer Brown's positive energy poetry on a classic slice of black New York garage. Picking up where 'Star Suite' – last year's tune of the year – left off, this packs in cool, funky beats, dreamy, sensual chords and jazzy melodies. What with the new Shelter venue re-opening this month, it really is good times in Manhattan. A real stunner. (TF)

★★★★★

### BRENT LAURENCE

#### Pass It On (Black Vinyl)/Funky Bizness (Sound Consortium)

The best Black Vinyl in ages, 'Pass It On' is deep house at its best. A quality vocal, backed with great, pumping drums and an overall feeling that just oozes soul. To all the DJs out there who complain about a lack of vocals... give this, Blaze, Linda Clifford and Angie Stone a try. 'Funky Bizness', on the other hand, shows that Brent can party as hard as the next man. Great sax and bass ride funky beats and warm keys, sounding very much like one of those old school tracky sandwiches that Tony Humphries used to top and tail songs with. Pitch it up and use it out. (TF)

★★★★★

### BIG MAN

#### Atomica (DJ Q Remix) (Mada Music)

This latest release on Mada sees Glasgow's Funboy Flynn taking on their first single, ripping up Big Man's Cricco Castelli-styled Latin cut into a tripped-out slice of sunshine house. Fat beats, Brazilian bass and enough sparkling Rhodes and scat vocals to transport you to a serious beach party. It's a bit early for summer in the UK, but perfectly timed for Miami. (KM)

★★★★★

### BROZZA FRAGG

#### Camillo's Night Bar (Statra, US)

The work of Lyon's Teddy G (owner of the funky Jazz-Up label) and Frederic Pasquier, 'Camillo's Night Bar' is a mid-tempo soundway constructed around disco beats, bumpy bass and sleazy guitar. In contrast, 'Le Shaman' is an uptempo Latin number with bright guitars and breezy bass. The YMC team of Jan and Erik, in their Nu Mood Orchestra guise, provide the main excitement for the house-heads with a typically smooth interpretation of 'Camillo's'. (KM)

★★★★★

### BOSSA TRES... JAXX II PRESENT

#### Brandy (Yellow)

Brandy Volante's 'Ritual' gets a real old school going over by Chateau Flight, where Detroit drums and bass compliment the Latin jazz vibe that was the original's fine framework. Yellow are without doubt the house-head purist's favourite label, taking over where MAW left off. Quality. (TF)

★★★★★

### THICK DICK

#### Orgasm/Umbiyo (Sondos)

Another of Chicago's favourite sons, E-Smoove, in his much darker guise gets very dark and tribally, almost 'French Kiss'-like at one point. But unlike the prog-pretenders (plastic tribalists!) he never loses sight of the source of real tribal. Black Africa – both scary and sexy. (TF)

★★★★★

### BLAZE

#### How Deep Is Your Love? (Shelter)

As the prog/tech/pop house thing gets blander and whiter with tired old pop singers yodelling over rehearsed tech rhythms, music such as this retouches your soul and makes you remember the source of house music. A simple but killer bassline from Timmy Regisford, a beautiful male vocal from Alexander Pope and, of course, a real/proper/soulful – you take your pick – song crafted from the mighty Blaze. Not just this month's best new whatever, but this month's best, full-stop. (TF)

★★★★★

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### POWDER PRODUCTIONS

#### Fire And Rain (M-Ocean)

In a deeper vein than their recent remixes for Kylie and Depeche Mode, 'Fire And Rain' marks a return to Powder Productions' space-house best. Tribal drums and shimmering string pads form the backing while some dubbed-out vocals and funky guitar licks spice up the groove. The overall effect is a sound that falls somewhere between their 'Chile Drums' and 'Universal People' releases and a record that will work well beside stuff from Low



Pressings and Forensic. Flipside 'After Dark' is a spookier 4/4 ride filled with twisted analogue noises and eerie voices. Definitely one of those workouts that has been specifically engineered for hot, dark sweatboxes booming with loud sounds. (KM)

★★★★★

### IAN POOLEY

#### Missing You (NRK)

'Missing You' is the second in a series of three underground issues from Pooley on Bristol's NRK imprint. Here he turns in a high-octane mash-up of what sounds like Chaka Khan's 'Heed The Warning' and some cut-up vocals. There'll be no Ivor Novello awards for the content but there should be plenty smiling faces on the dancefloor. (KM)

★★★★★

### AUDIO DUB ODYSSEY

#### This Dub (Ovum, US)

Ovum continue their run of form with this tough tribal workout from ADO. 'This Dub' comes in three mixes – ADO's 'Main Mix' and 'Reprise' sound like Liquid Liquid locked in a room with Francois K (without the dub element) while Pete Moss' 'Mirage Mix' keeps the strung-out percussive feel but fattens up the beats to provide a more direct sound system assault. (KM)

★★★★★

### HOME & GARDEN PRESENTS NKEMDI

#### An Invitation (Osunlade Remix) (Central Park, US)

You may know Nkemi's impressive vocals from the original issue of this cut. More likely, you'll have heard her tones on Creamer & K's 'Wish You Were Here' or Jon Cutler's 'Groove Me'. Here, Osunlade delivers a silky deep house backing that's a little like Soldiers Of Twilight crossed with something on Transport. (KM)

★★★★★

### VARIOUS ARTISTS

#### Wally's Groove World Compilation Sampler (WGW, Belgium)

If you're a fan of D'Juz you'll already be aware of one of the cuts on this twelve. The Marino Berardi remix of Swirl People's 'Dubco Trip' first appeared on his excellent 'Boxes' comp and it

with a double-decker that should drive most deep house floors along nicely – 'The Story Of Mister Miller' comes across like a millennial update of Lonnie Liston Smith's 'Expansions'. Afix then comes round the corner with a seriously funky couple of cuts that sound like Ian Pooley and Ernest Saint Laurent out on a floorfilling bender. (KM)

★★★★★

### ALEX GOPHER & DEMON PRESENT WUZ

#### Use Me (Solid/V2)

When Yves Saint Laurent commissioned some music from Alex Gopher to accompany their 2001 catwalk shows, he drafted in Demon to add some big room sparkle to the mix. Here the two Parisian heads play around with a cool 'All you wanna do is use me' sample on a wicked, string-fuelled, peak-time groove. (KM)

★★★★★

### CHRIS LUM

#### Inside Of Me EP (Nightshift, US)

'Oh Yeah (History Repeats)', the standout cut on this latest release on Tony Hewitt's Tango subsidiary, is a blend of disco percussion, Eighties-style synth stabs and electro keyboard hooks that work a dancefloor groove with real character. 'The Fires Inside' is a more laid back affair using strings and deep bass tones to provide a cool warm up number. (KM)

★★★★★

### FRITZ VALLEY PROJECT

#### The Story Of Mister Miller AFRIX

#### Kigall Warriors (both Transfusion)

Like buses, Transfusion releases are nowhere to be seen for ages, and then two come along at once. First in the queue are Fritz Valley Project

## STATE OF THE ARTIST DJ VIBE

Portugal's answer to Danny Tenaglia accepts Muzik's Q&A challenge



HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE SOUND OF YOUR NEW MIX CD? "It's a little bit of everything. On my album, it was difficult for me to put all the styles of music I like into 72 minutes. Portugal is different to England; here I get to DJ for eight hours a night." WHO ARE YOUR MUSICAL HEROES? "The productions of DJ Pierre, Ron Trent and Chez Damier

were always something special to me. And 10 years later, Deep Dish and Danny Tenaglia. I also love Prince. I met him at The Lux here in Portugal. He looked like a very shy person." DO YOU DIG BIZA? "The first time I was in Ibiza was 12 years ago. It's different now, but not in a bad way. I would like to play for Pacha or Space. Inside, never outside!"

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE DOING IN FIVE YEARS' TIME? "I am privileged to do what I do, so I hope to be doing the same. I was born with the music because my father had a record store. For 20 years, DJing and production are the only things I have done." 'Vibe Presents International Grooves Volume 1' is out now on Intergroove



## REVIEWS BY PEZZ

3 Beat Records head and dance music hack Pezz has been around. He landed a job as Bizarre Inc's tour DJ in the early Nineties and also played for DIY at the Hacienda back in the day. His favourite film is *Quadrophenia*, "cos I'm one of the faces!"

## JAMES HOLDEN

### Solstice (Silver Planet)

Hammered by everyone worth mentioning over recent months, this latest modern classic is a return to James Holden's underground roots. Techy, trancey but oh-so-progressive – it's so good, it hurts. There's life in the old dog yet.

★★★★★

## MAVI

### The Lost Anatolian EP (Regress)

'Precious' is first up on this EP, and it's a cool, percussive groove with Balinese bamboo chimes and hypnotising synths adding flair. 'My Dream' is the one to head for, though – it's got a simple build with an odd but infectious warbling noise that takes you to the break, where it gets fantastically moody, with moaning horns and a mind-blowing, 1988-style bassline – pure class.

★★★★★

## 4 ELEMENTS

### Fire (Kismet)

What a roll these guys are on at the moment! Release after release, the standard just keeps improving. 'Fire' is prog in its purest form. Minimal, rolling rhythms and basic but effective bass are topped off very nicely, thank you, with relentless, pulsating strings and an uplifting yet moody melody. More of this please.

★★★★★

## JONDI & SPESH

### My Stories Of The Giant Squad (Black)

Where the title comes from I'll never know, but when you're producing tracks as good as this, what does it matter what you call them! More progressive than your usual J & S tracks, this still maintains that West Coast vibe, but this time with a slightly more menacing delivery.

★★★★★

## DEEP FUNK PROJECT

### Blackwitch (Zero Tolerance)

As the Aussies continue to bring us some of the best progressive based music of recent times, Zero Tolerance find themselves, once again, right at the top of the tree. This double

header is packed with deep and dark melodies, presented in the most minimal but fantastically fresh way. Should become staple fodder for the big jocks.

★★★★★

## G-PAL PRESENTS GHOS

### Future Music (Yoshitoshi)

Over the years G-Pal has released material on other top labels such as Plastic City, Bedrock, Ovum and Low Pressings, and he's now got three tracks out on Deep Dish's label, spread over two twelves. Ranging from deep underground grooves through to tuffer club rockers, each one has its own appeal, but all will attract attention from a large cross-section of DJs and punters alike.

★★★★★

## TONE DEPTH

### Rumblefish (Bedrock)

This is by no means the greatest release for Bedrock, but while progressive house finds its feet again and begins to settle down to business, Rumblefish are hanging around quite successfully in the void between the progressive sound of old and the 'new' house sound. Strong, but maybe not quite strong enough.

★★★★★

## MADOKA

### Cappola (Private Reality)

The new genius of progressive house is here! Madoka will fast become one of our greats. 'Cappola' is an interestingly fresh sounding release on his new label Private Reality. Huge basslines and oriental flavoured melodies make this a superbly exciting release.

★★★★★

## NORTH ATLANTIC

### Mind Filter (EQ)

A fairly new label that has on previous occasions been slightly more exciting than this. 'Mind Filter' is not a bad release, but on the other hand it's not a great release either. It does all that is expected, but nothing to send shivers down the spine. A small blip in the learning curve of what will become, I'm sure, a very hot little label.

★★★★★

## HDI

### Decimator (USR)

A rather strange beast, this, bringing bizarre electronic sounds to dance music, mixing it all up and producing the most intensely trippy, twisted house imaginable. Oko Tek stick in a throbbing bassline to add to the party. Very innovative and ground-breaking.

★★★★★

## LHB

### Everybody Sees It On My Face (white label)

The on form old boys of progressive house, Yum Yum, are back once again, this time remixing rather than producing. A funky and chunky house track forms the backbone for the poppy male vocal. Groovy progressive as opposed to Yum Yum's normal, more anthemic gear.

★★★★★

## SUB PROJECT

### Space (Plastica)

Smooth, polished, techno-influenced house, 'Space' takes its time, subtly moving along, and never loses its way. The deep washes that come in over electro beats during the break only up the quality levels still further. A phat, energetic dub resides on the B-side, but my money's on the A.

★★★★★

## SIA

### Drink To Get Drunk (Remix) (Maelstrom)

Last year's classic gets the inevitable remix treatment. Chris Lake takes the awesome vocal and masterfully melts it into a very punchy but eerily underground club monster. A slight 'French Kiss' vibe runs throughout this fabulous new version. One to watch.

★★★★★

## 900 AF

### Compound/Element (Progress Inn)

"A Burridge fave", says the press release, and you can instantly see why, as unique sounds and techy percussion are all presented in a rather noodly kind of way, with acidic electronics adding depth to the groove. 'Element' on the flip continues the theme with a phat, growling bass.

★★★★★

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### SINEAD O'CONNOR

#### Troy (The Phoenix From The Flame) (Devolution)

It's taken two years of hard graft to get this track from the conceptual stage to a finished release – with legal wrangling between EMI and Atlantic/Warners almost scuppering it – but Devolution have pulled it off. John Creamer and Stephane K have produced something more like a contemporary Sinead O'Connor track than a remix of an old song. Its simple, tribal progressive production suits Sinead's beautiful, unique and



emotionally raw vocal like a glove. On the flip, the Push remix is typically anthemic, hands in the air stuff, but with a more mature feel than their usual full-on Euro trance malarkey. An awesome club release with chart action guaranteed. Nothing compares to this.

★★★★★

## WEEKEND WORLD

### Double Vision/Cubes (Weekend World)

One of the pioneers of the current house trend is back once again, proving that he is still top of the stack. 'Double Vision' is special: it has a funk that will simply blow you away. House, progressive? Who the hell cares? This is just the dog's.

★★★★★

## THE SCUMFROG VERSUS DAVID BOWIE

### Loving The Alien (Positiva)

One of the Miami biggies this year – head for the '8 Days And 7 Hours' mix and you will instantly hear why. Electric guitar stabs and an awesome spoken vocal running across the top of a fundamentally simple groove make this a monster. Are all the best things always this simple? One of the tunes of the year.

★★★★★

## SPECTRALMINDS

### I Can Give It To You (POD)

After the disappointing 'My Mind Is Going', 'I Can Give It To You' sets POD right back on track. In fact this takes them beyond where they were before – it's bristling with moody old school house flavours, but utilises everything that modern production techniques allow. An outstanding release that will last and last for years to come.

★★★★★

## ROLAND K VERSUS

### Q LOCK Goliath (Deep)

After a slow start, Deep have come up with a surefire winner. The on-form Lemon 8 provide the remix, sampling Grace Jones' 'Slave To The Rhythm' intro to great effect with a typically massive rolling bassline and instantly hooky synth line.

★★★★★

## LABEL STABLE PLASTICA

"Plastic Fantastic's underground offshoot is equally, er, fantastic," say label bosses Justin Garrett and Hugh Bryder



PLASTICA

## SO WHAT'S PLASTICA ALL ABOUT?

"It's all about non-stop hard work! Plastica was launched in July 2000 to develop a more futuristic, underground sound. The past two years have seen it become internationally renowned through some astute signings. Plastica Red was launched last year to further expand the musical diversity of the labels."

## WHAT SECRET WEAPONS HAVE YOU GOT UP YOUR SLEEVE?

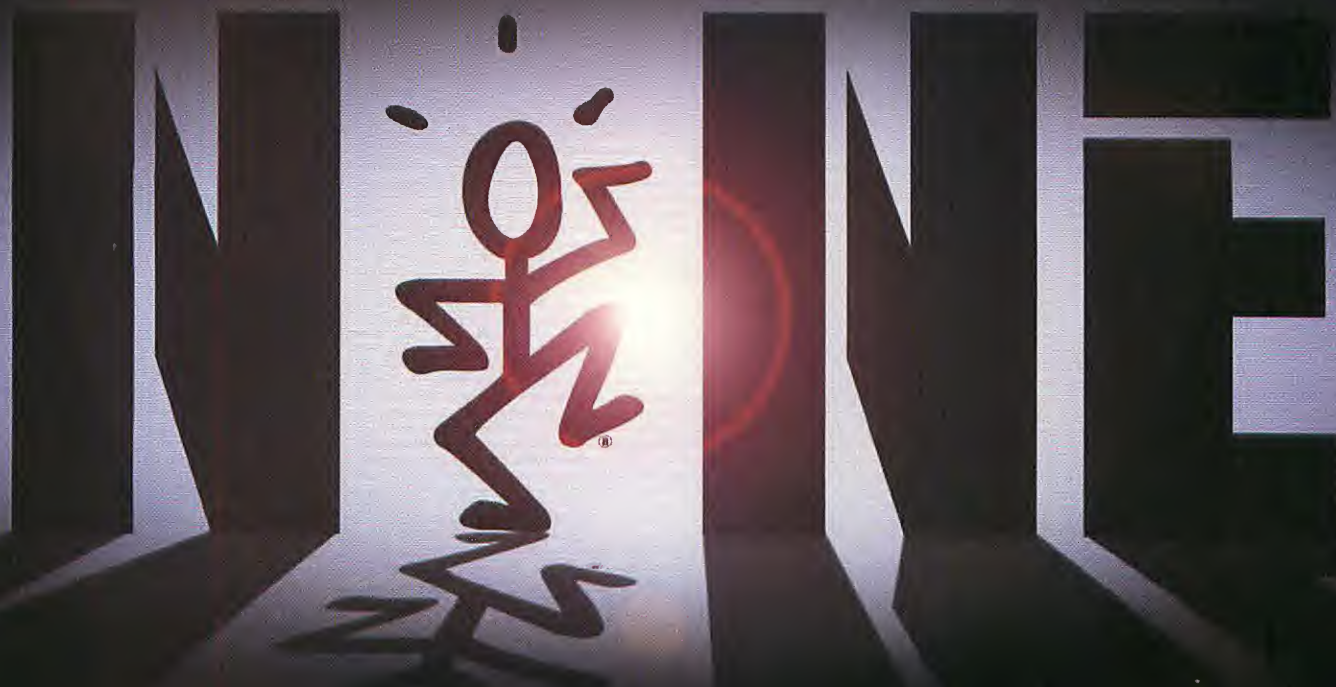
"Israel's rising stars, Mo Shic & Zidan, are about to release their new single; Kevin Swain & David Snell have loads of amazing new stuff ready to go; Sub Project's 'Space'; Swain, Snell & Lucas' 'We Need Space'; Mashup's 'Karmasutra', and Kade's 'If You Want Me', There's loads more, but

## we don't want to give away all our secret weapons, do we?"

## WHAT ELSE IS ON THE HORIZON?

"Looking into our 'Plastic' crystal ball, we can see our first ever album project, followed by the rebirth (again!) of real progressive house!"

Mo Shic & Zidan's '10@ZE' is out soon on Plastica



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### REVIEWS BY DAVE MOTHERSOLE & JONAS STONE

Dave has long hair, but is nonetheless permitted to play techno at Positive Sound (Brighton), Electrolounge (London), and around the world, as well as on Kliss 100 (Tuesday 2-4am). His favourite film is 'The Big Lebowski' because "it's funny". Correctly shorn Jonas, meanwhile, favours Twin Town because he "fancies a few drinky winkles at The Ponderosa. Or something."



Atkins at a San Fran beach party. (DM)

★★★★

### THE 65 D MAVERICKS Earthbound (Surface)

Richard Polson & Nick Dunton fly the good ship Surface back to terra firma with a double-pack of intricate, pulsating techno and delicate, Humana-style minimalism. Backed with an arsenal of remixes from the UK's top guns (Oliver Ho, Surgeon and James Ruskin), this has to be one of the UK's strongest techno releases in recent months. Unstoppable. (JS)

★★★★★

### SUPER\_COLLIDER Messagesacomin' (Rise Robots Rise)

Like Bootsy Collins and Funkstorung in a blender, Cristian Vogel and Jamie Lidell's unique cacophony somehow marries clattering techno to silky smooth boudoir-funk with consummate ease. Keeping it south coast, fellow Brighton newcomers Chungking add a downtempo, vibes-shaped teardrop, while MDK throws the drum kit down the stairs (again). Strangely beautiful. (JS)

★★★★★

### BIS FACT2002 (OSCar)

Taking four classic Factory releases and giving them a modern electro-twist (it's all the rage these days, don'tcha know) is what Bis has done, for yet more Eighties re-manipulation. With Joy Division, New Order, A Certain Ratio and Section 25 in the blender, this quirky electro-pop business might just catch on. And of course, it rocks! (JS)

★★★★★

### DJ RUSH Get On Up (Remixes) (Pro-Jex)

The monstrous, dirty jack funk of Rush's 'Get On Up' caused dancefloor panic last year and here the baton is handed on to Chris Liebing, Marco Klacid and Umek for yet more speaker punishment. But to be honest here, only Liebing really makes an impression, by not straying too far from the original's head-ripping groove. (JS)

★★★★

### PHIL KIERAN PRESENTS ACID TED Heat (TT500)

Kieran does all kinds of styles and more power to him for that. For our money, though, he's at his best when he's making deep, string-fuelled, melodic dancefloor techno like this. And unlike a lot of deep techno, this has the added advantage of a decent, DJ-friendly arrangement, so you can mix it with anything. Marvellous. (DM)

★★★★★

### ASAD RIZVI Smiling At The Sun (Visitor, Belgium)

Fred Nasen's Visitor imprint has become the tech-houser's label of choice in recent months and this will only help its rapidly growing stature. The title track's funky optimism contrasts with the flipside's dark, moody atmospherics and, as ever with Rizvi, the production is crystal clear and the arrangement spot on. (DM)

★★★★★

### CRITICAL PHASE The Phase Effect (New Religion)

I liked this one before I even listened to it, partly because it's on New Religion, but mainly because the artwork totally rips off the cover of 'Complete Control' by The Clash. Thankfully though, Kirk Degiorgio, Dan Keeling and Mode (on the remix) have made sure the music is good too. Tech-funk beats and punk rock art – nice combo. (DM)

★★★★★

### JUSTUS KOHNCKE Jet/Shelter (Kompakt)

Never a label to let quality control drop below stunning, Kompakt have once again unearthed a modern day master in the shape of Justus Kohncke. 'Jet' melds the hip swing of disco to glorious, Detroitian grooved techno, with Kompakt's own Michael Mayer supplying a superb remix, while 'Shelter' sees a sublime instrumental cover of The Rolling Stones 'Gimme Shelter' pitched so wonderfully to a glorious house tempo, you can almost smell Keef's fag smoke. Class. (JS)

★★★★★

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### NORTHERN LITE Treat Me Better (City Rockers)

I did have reservations about making 'Treat Me Better' this month's Vital Release. After all, we've all seen the 'Eighties revival' front covers and straplines about 'techno for girls'. Ultimately though, this had to win, because it's easily the best attempt anyone has made so far at paying homage to the authentic sound of electro-pop. Like cult Eighties synth duo Psyche in all their wasted gothic glory, 'Treat Me Better' is decadent, camp and ludicrously catchy. It's



the real sound of the pre-acid house Eighties. From Goa to Ibiza to Berlin, this is how European techno once sounded. Bizarrely, it's also the sound of now, and even though that's as much down to fashion as anything else, this is still a great record. (DM)

★★★★★

### LUKE SLATER Use Me (Console Mix) (Mute)

Those of you unlucky enough to have heard the original version of this will know how unspeakably dreadful it is, which probably explains why there are so many remixes knocking about. This though, backed by a pretty good Spincycle mix, is the one to go for. Deep, late night grooves from two fast rising production outfits. (DM)

★★★★

### DUALITY Thrust 2 (Carbon)

'Static', on the flipside, is the one to go for here. Falling somewhere between Euro-flavoured tech-house and the nastiest, most stripped-down prog, it's the kind of track that will suit any DJ who likes big fat rhythm tracks, loads of bass and nifty percussive hooks. Incidental floorfiller. (DM)

★★★★★

### LOS TULIOS Suna Talat EP (Wet Musik)

Valentino Kanyani and Umek team up again for some more rip roaring, full on Euro techno. Stylistically it's business as usual, with Moroder basslines, vocal snippets, huge rides, big drums and the occasional rave stab. Nothing wrong with that, of course, and this will do the job at clubs the world over. (DM)

★★★★

### GET FUCKED Yank Fuck (Eukahouse)

Get Fucked helped to shape the sound of tech-house with their rough beats, big hats and even bigger basslines, but they were starting to sound a bit samey. So it comes as a welcome surprise that this is as driving as ever, but with spacier sounds, looser grooves and a darker vibe overall. (DM)

★★★★★

### KEITH TUCKER Stick It In Your Ear (End To End, US)

Constantly repeating the word "Detroit" on a homage to the city's legendary radio station WDTR could be viewed as overstating things a bit, but hey, that's the 'D' for ya. The flipside, featuring two extra-lush downtempo tracks, is lovely though, so we shan't complain. (DM)

★★★★★

### OXIA Finally EP (Intec)

After 'Lifetimes' made every techno producer and his uncle run to the studio to lay down some synth strings and Reese basslines, this could seem a little obvious. Oxia, though, is good enough to put his own stamp on the techno sound of the moment and even though this is clearly a breakthrough record, it works well and won't lose him any of his hard-earned cred. (DM)

★★★★

### MR G Me Myself & I (album sampler) (Duty Free)

Anyone who heard Mr G's brilliant mix of Roger Sanchez's 'Another Chance' will know that he can be a bit handy in the remix department. This time round his own 'My Father's Farda' gets a re-rub with the original vocal used to even greater effect, alongside a big rolling bassline and an uplifting synth part. Recommended. (DM)

★★★★★

### BRET JOHNSON Indian In My Faucet EP (Hi Phen, Belgium)

Techy deep house from a new label run by two men who really understand such things – Food Club resident Geoffroy and DJ Koenie from Wally's Groove World. The grooves are fat and funky and the melodies an absolute joy. Think Pepe Braddock and Juan



## LABEL STABLE LONGHAUL

A&R boss Natausha Van Vliet gives us the lowdown on her spiffing electro imprint

WHAT'S THE LABEL ABOUT?  
"We're a platform for the more experimental electro artists – the likes of Bolz Bolz, Paul Daley, Si Begg, DJ Bone, EON and Sven Andersson. If it's fresh, a tad weird, and sometimes disturbing then that's probably us."  
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE CURRENT ELECTRO REVIVAL?  
"It's all good! Guys like Hell and

Fischerspooner are really cool, but we want to push the sound forward without referring too much to the Eighties blueprint. Like EON – they're continually pushing new, non-retro sounds. That's the way that we like to go."  
WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE?  
"Ian 'EON' B is going to be releasing his album in the summer and we've got some

cool singles from Pablo Joe and T Polar scheduled. We've also got the new 'Beatz Clash' mix series incoming, and we'll be doing a series of Beatz Clash parties soon, too."  
EON's 'Tantalus EP' is out now. The 'Beatz Clash 01: Radioactive Man Versus Transparent Sound' album follows shortly



## REVIEWS BY MARK KAVANAGH

Mark has been mashing up the place (Dublin, primarily) for 10 years and is signed to Tripoli Trax as well as running his own "hard and bouncy" Baby Doll imprint. His favourite film is 12 Monkeys – "a delightful head-fuck for your hangover!"

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### VARIOUS ARTISTS

Frantic 2002 (Warner Dance)

If you've ever been to London's most popular hard house haunt, Frantic, you'll know what to expect from their second album, as two of the club's residents give you the opportunity to experience the musical madness for yourself. Lord Farley opens with 'Hardcore Party' and takes in 'The Drill', 'Pulsar', 'Instantly' and his own awesome 'Hyperventilate' en route to full-on finale 'Yamamba'. Scene favourite Phil Reynolds then builds his set with style and confidence – 'Whiplash'



and 'Flash' just two of the delights leading to the anthemic climax of 'Dreams' and 'Warehouse'. Proof, if proof be needed, that any media-inspired notions of our beloved genre being dead on its feet are just wishful thinking on the part of its detractors.

★★★★★

### PAUL MADDOX

**Revolution (Tidy Trax)**  
After the success of his N-Trance and Question Mark remixes, Paul's debut on Tidy exceeds all expectations. Both sides, 'Revolution' and 'Raid', are underpinned by galloping basslines and awash with acidic touches, movie soundtrack snippets, big riffs and chord changes that work a treat. Huge!

★★★★★

### JOHN WHITEMAN

**Annihilation (Hotwax)**  
The Hotwax head honcho is back, and his production is on fire. Big phat beats lure you in, snippets of the riff are dropped in before the bass erupts and a dark hoover riff builds superbly until the OTT breakdown – it goes right off in the all the right places. 'Dirty Flange' is a more energetic outing that covers the same ground.

★★★★★

### COSMIC GATE

**Exploration Of Space (Data)**  
Funky hi-hat action propels the Gate's second offering, an atmospheric slice of hypno-house that subtly builds to an enormous riff. Not as big as 'Firewire', but another massive hit in the making. On the remix, DJ Shredda injects some techno attitude, a wobbly bass, dark stabs and Picotto-esque synths – intense, man.

★★★★★

### FRANK T.R.A.X.

**Nebuchan (Neo)**  
Previously on Noom, Bonzai and Rising High, Spanish star Francisco Martinez makes his Neo debut with a genre-hopping burst of energy driven by acidic bass and dark stabs. Its uplifting breakdown works a treat, and crossover success seems highly likely. The banal 'O.R.G.A.N. Mix' is one for the trance bods only, though.

★★★★★

### WEIRDO

**Don't Think (Tinrib)**  
The third 12-inch of the best cuts from Weirido's 'Normalisation' album features the wonderful 'Don't Think', a tightly produced fusion of NRG bass, crisp percussion and full-on acid lines, and 'Ghost Stick', where techno beats collide with a hard house bass, and lots of Weirido's trademark, slithering synths creep in and out of the mix.

★★★★

### ALI WILSON

**Congo Groove (Re-Entry)**  
20 year-old Ali explores the middle ground between techno and hard house. The production is most assured, especially considering his youth, with acid licks and big stabs riding a bubbling bass groove and everything sitting together perfectly. On the flipside, the more established Rowland The Bastard delivers a frantic and savage techno workout, 'Serial Thriller'. One for the headstrong.

★★★★★

### SIMON EVE & DYNAMIC

**Intervention**  
**Serious Soundz (Recharge)**  
Talented decksmeister, Recharge boss and all-round top bloke Simon Eve teams up with Dynamic Intervention dude Mik Cree for a tough and funky fusion of quirky stabs and catchy vocal bites that goes through the roof after its soaring breakdown. Billy Bunter and Jon Doe supply a deep and dark remix that's a bit too serious for its own good.

★★★★★

### THE TRIXTA

**Gunsmoke (Rock Hard Recordings)**  
The debut on Rock Hard Recordings from The Trixta is a pleasant, offbeat bouncer with Dutch-style synths and the vocal from The Benedict Brothers' hit 'Honeychild'. The flipside sees another debut, this time from The Chatter, on remix duties. It's a tough-as-nails, Ingo-esque effort that's got plenty of gunshots and siren effects but which sounds ever so 2001, darling.

★★★★★

### OLI FREKE

**Think Tank (Fevah Trance)**  
Former Medikal Records partner Oli is out on his own, making his debut on the fast rising Fevah stamp with a hard and hovertastic trancer that's got a moody, string-heavy breakdown. The more uplifting drop on the 'Hard Mix' makes it a much more appealing proposition for the floor. Watch out too for 'Futurescope', his ace cut as Contact Assist, on Fevah House.

★★★★

### MARK SINCLAIR

**Viva Curitiba (Pirate Wax)**  
Pendragon resident and main vibewatcher Mark Sinclair – owner of the longest hair in dance music – brings us the fourth instalment from the latest addition to Chris C's ever-expanding stable of labels. 'Viva' is a pumping and well-produced trancer with a slight Brazilian influence, and it's accompanied by a beefy remake by the label boss that retains the mood of the original and adds some razor-sharp synth action.

★★★★★

### EUFEX

**Resident 4 President (Ravage)**  
The fourth Ravage release brings the world two rocking, relentless grooves. The Eufex trademark is originality, and both 'R4P' and 'Strange World' steer well clear of big breakdowns and crowd-pleasing drops and builds. The former's relentless powerhouse rhythm is underpinned by an ace bass and interjected with a mad, cockney-sounding rap; only the hoovers are predictable. Solid.

★★★★★

### LISA PIN-UP

**Turn Up The Sound (Nukleuz Blue)**  
A very average set of mixes of a track that first appeared on the now-defunct Slinky label. The 'Original Mix' introduces hoovers, acid and a catchy rap without ever catching fire, the 'Smureff Mix' is a moody and dark trancer, and the 'Equinox 140bpm Remix' is just as trancey but not quite as dark. There's also a more full-on, rattling and acidic 'Equinox Remix'.

★★★★★

### D&A

**Demons (Tidy Two)**  
The second release on Tidy's new sister label exemplifies its more Euro-styled leanings. The 'Original Mix' is a pounding Germanic assault – grungey synths and firing acid lines ripple atop a bubbling bass and kicks soaked in reverb. The uneventful 'Spacecorn Remix' doesn't waste any time getting to its first breakdown, bringing in the big riff and repeating it incessantly throughout. Not very imaginative.

★★★★

### DJ ZEBULON

**Everybody Jump (OTR)**  
The novelty record is back in all its ridiculous glory. Self-professed nu-techmeister Kaygee's 'Over Zealous Ninja Mix' revolves around dark, fucked-up drums and a high-pitched bass – it's far too moody for me and a far cry from the very silly 'Zebulon Mix'. Here, snares sit on the kicks, and the reversed bass is topped with an irritating 'poing' sound that goes on and on.

★★★★

### BILL & BEN, THE IRISH MEN

**The Age Of Dub (white label)**  
The first appearance from this mysterious Irish duo is a chunky cover of The Age Of Love's all-time dance anthem, amusingly arriving at the same time as another by arguably the most popular banging DJ in the UK. Bill & Ben's epic and emotive version has been creating quite a buzz for the lucky few with advance copies, and as it's a limited pressing you'd best grab one while you can.

★★★★★

### NICK RAFFERTY

**I Do It (UK Power)**  
Sundissential ressie Nick borrows the 'Dirty Barry' bass for a fun-filled frolic with a very infectious and uplifting riff and an NRG b-line. The galloping, grin-inducing 'Chad Lewis & DJ Smiler Mix' builds nicely with Ramirez stabs and hoovers, and climaxes with a breakbeat-led breakdown that works very nicely. Both sides do their job on the dancefloor.

★★★★★

## LABEL STABLE VIOCIUS CIRCLE RECORDINGS

Paul Glazby bigs up the most successful new hard house label on the block



Insomniac resident Paul Glazby – one of the most popular DJs on the hard house scene – launched his Vicious Circle stamp early in 2001. The first release, 'Kick It', sold over 4,000 copies, which, for a new label and an artist who was relatively unknown, was an amazing achievement. "Initially I started it as an outlet for my own material," Paul recalls,

"but after the success of the first release we [Paul, Scott Cooper and Les Harris] realised that Vicious Circle could be much bigger than we'd first imagined, and got other artists involved." Vicious Circle was recently voted Best New Label by readers of popular hard house web site Energy UK, and its distributor Amato says they achieved sales to match the

big guns after just a few releases. The future looks bright, then. "Hopefully the sky's the limit. The underground sound is on the up again, which can only be good news for us. The releases we have lined up for the rest of this year should propel us further up the rankings." 'Yamamba' by the late, great RR Fierce is out now on Vicious Circle

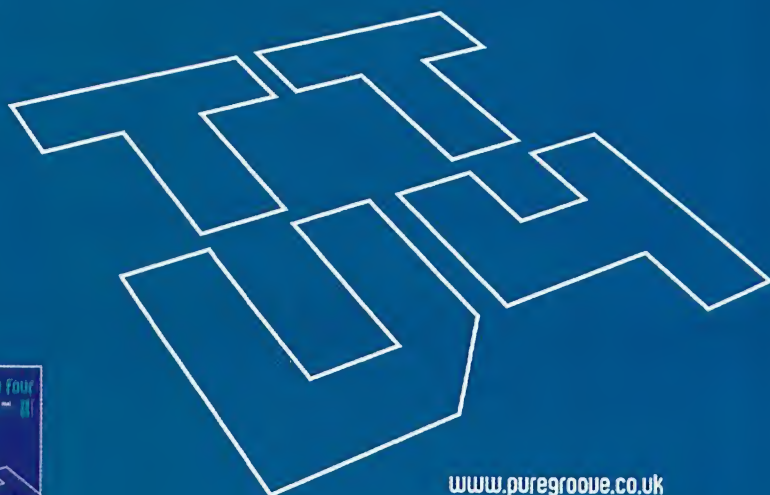
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I'M LAZY WHEN I'M LOVING / I'M LAZY WHEN I PLAY / I'M  
LAZY WITH MY GIRLFRIEND, A THOUSAND TIMES A DAY /  
I'M LAZY WHEN I'M SPEAKIN' / I'M LAZY WHEN I WALK /  
I'M LAZY WHEN I'M DANCIN' / I'M LAZY WHEN I TALK

OPEN UP MY MOUTH / AIR COMES RUSHIN OUT / NOTHIN  
DOIN NADA NEVER HOW YOU LIKE ME NOW / WOULDN'T IT  
BE MAD, WOULDN'T IT BE FINE / LAZY LUCKY LADY DANCIN'  
LOVIN ALL THE TIME

I'M WICKED AND I'M LAZY / DON'T YOU WANT TO SAVE ME?

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## REVIEWS BY LEE FOSTER

Lee Foster has been a DJ for over a decade and is currently doing an HND in Music Production. His favourite film is the uplifting and euphoric *A Room With A View*, "an adaptation of EM Forster's novel. It's an incredible comedy drama."

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### KAI TRACID

Trance & Acid (Tracid Traxxx)

**1** 995 heralded the arrival of one of Germany's most intriguing and musically complex producers, Kai MacDonald. Formic Acid, Mac Acid II, Arrakis and Angel Of Death are just a few of the guises that Kai has used, notching up over 100 production projects as well as numerous remixing credits. His sound has changed dramatically over the years, but always retains clarity and brilliance. 'Trance & Acid' is the flagship track on this box set of four 12-inch



masterpieces. The quality of each recording is sublime; Kai uses a bewildering assortment of noises, building up an overwhelming sonic experience. 'Voyager', 'Life Is Too Short' and 'Suicide' are also breathtaking. A collector's item.

★★★★★

### VOI FEATURING DZENITA

Free (TECH)

'Big dog's mangled plums!' Not the sort of phrase you'd expect to hear in a trance review, but - hey! - this is the 21st century, and 'Free' warrants such an exclamation. It's a relentless, driving track with a sensual vocal that will send shivers down your spine. Grey C Frost's stripped down version is amazing, backed up by Marc la Cruz's full vocal remix. German production ingenuity at its ruthlessly efficient best.

★★★★★

### THE UNDERGROUND SOUNDS OF HOLLAND

Various Artists (Perfecto)

The Oakenphant turns his attention to the breaking vibes in the Netherlands, with a timely reminder of the massive pool of talent that exists there. DJ Emjay & Asouter, Roland Klinkenberg and Jaimy & Kenny D all feature, but

the most outstanding production by far is Mike Vandenberg's 'My Life'. Coming next: 'The Underground Sounds Of Krakatoa'. Maybe.

★★★★★

### ANAMORPHIC

Dream (Blutonium)

It's always a pleasure to hear a track that combines euphoric arrangement with soul-tingling vocals and has the ability to drag you all over the dancefloor like a beanbag, and this is just such a track. Avoid dancefloor nightmares: drop 'Dream'.

★★★★★

### KAZE

The Voice (Overdose)

'Baste my steaming puddings!' It's not every day a producer combines pounding, pulse-racing trance with an opera-style vocal that actually works. For those who revel in the

delight of evil 303 stabs, coupled with the intensity of a small forest fire, then look no further. You could have removed my ribcage when the whole track vanished, leaving only the deeply haunting vocals of Stephanie. Tremendous.

★★★★★

### KID

Who Am I? (ldropthebomb.com)

From an early age, Kid has immersed himself in studio technology, hoping for that first hit. After 14 years, 14,112 cups of tea and more late nights than he'd care to remember, his debut track is unleashed. Aimed at the club trance segment of the market, 'Who Am I?' boasts a pulsating original version and a 3rd Degree remix, both of which have rocked Gatecrasher - not bad!

★★★★★

### WHITE RUSSIANS

Unipolar (Black Hole)

Did White Russians have too much to drink before choosing a group name? Maybe. Does this thumping trance roller coaster take you to the edge of musical perfection? Possibly, but that's for you to decide. Tiesto's label comes up with the goods once again.

★★★★★

### BRUSH VERSUS

DI CARLO

Fraulein (DDE)

The energetic sounds of Italy are slipping into the mixed sets of just about every trance DJ on the planet! With the distinct feeling of a bizarre space age marching anthem, 'Fraulein' knocks the living daylight out of elephants; imagine what it will do to you, or your pet pachyderm!

★★★★★

### DJ TIESTO

Lethal Industry (Nebula)

Taken from Tiesto's debut album, 'Lethal Industry' is rich with feeling and depth - the poignant melody will etch itself into your memory. Then there's the roll-call of remix giants: DJ Tiesto, Svenson & Gielen, Fred Numf Versus Etienne Overdijk and Mauro Picotto. But which remix is best? That's not for this cat to say - all the versions are of an incredibly high standard.

★★★★★

### FRANK T.R.A.X

Nebuchan (Neo)

To be honest, I had lost all faith in Neo. After several cracking trance releases, the hit factory grew still. Until now, that is. 'Nebuchan', what's that all about then? It's about foundation-trouncing trance of the highest order, that's what. The craftsmanship of this tune is incredible, taking the listener to the highest peak before smashing them to pieces in a crescendo of sound.

★★★★★

### ALTITUDE

Altitude (UK Bonzai)

Steve Gibbs has been working his poor little fingers to the bone; in fact, several have been reduced to small stubs and desperately need medical attention. Fortunately, the result of his labour is striking to say the least. How can you improve that? Why, simply bang in a remix from one of Overdose's finest producers, S.H.O.K.K., and things really start to get a bit messy. You people just don't know how good you've got it!

★★★★★

### TASTE EXPERIENCE

Highlander (Remixes)

(Black Hole)

In summer 2001, I was struck down, as if by lightning, by the crippling lead synth in Ralphie B's 'Massive' - anyone who has heard this track will know what I am talking about, anyone who hasn't, where the hell were you last year? Ralphie is back, with all instruments blazing, remixing the hell out of 'Highlander' in his inimitable style. I hear you say 'Ooooh'. Yes, unworthy vinyl slaves, this is well worth those pennies.

★★★★★

### NORTH ATLANTIC

Mind Filter (EQ Grey)

Written, produced and engineered by Chris Fresh, remixed by Pankaj & Matt Edwards. That's the total sum of information available regarding this track - they could be crash test dummies for all I know. As it stands, the Trendroid remix is one of the finest throbbing trance workouts for ages. I'm led to believe that North Atlantic hail from Oz - but that could just be a blatant lie. (LF)

★★★★★

### MICRO

Fall Into Me (Moonshine)

Since the early Caffeine parties in 1990, American 'rave' legend Micro has sought to establish his music across the States, with a melodic style that would please even the most dubious hardcore cyber kid. The US trance underground sound is now filtering back through to the UK, and the exchange of concepts can only serve to strengthen the scene globally. Micro's track is like 'Pistolwhip' meets 'Not Over Yet' - a devastating combination.

★★★★★

### HARDY HELLER

VERSUS INKFISH

Feelings (Tune Inn)

Hardy Heller, a name synonymous with superior trance, often working as HH (remember the 'Ice EP'?), has been responsible for more cool music than I've had pies. Inkfish are two DJs and two producers, who have been at the forefront of the Swedish dance scene since 1998. Working together, they throw everything into the melting pot, resulting in a pumping trancer that would get your granny into cyber gear.

★★★★★

## SPECIALIST ALBUMS

### VARIOUS ARTISTS

Re:Evolution IV

(Flying Rhino)

The diverse sound universe of James Monro and Lucas O'Brien is the ultimate reward for those returning after a hard night's clubbing. CD 1 has an array of tracks building into an almost tangible arena of fluid sound, as James steers the listener through a world of electronic bliss. Lucas pumps things up on CD 2, with an assortment of trance, techno and tech-house. The mixing is virtually seamless, coupled with good progression and thoughtful track arrangement, making for the perfect combination CD set. (LF)

★★★★★

## SO WHO THE HELL ARE... MARC ET CLAUDE

The trance duo who had a big hit with 'I Need Your Loving' - it's okay, they're good really



**M** konchengladbach may not be the easiest place to ask for a taxi to when you're pissed, but it is home to popular Germany production duo Marc Romboy and Klaus Derichs. WHAT MADE YOU BECOME DJS? "We wanted the chance to try out some of our productions in a club, have a great party and help clubbers forget their worries for a few hours."

WHAT'S THE STORY BEHIND YOUR ALPHABET CITY LABEL? "To offer our friends and producers a platform to release their productions. It's more like a family than a record label. It works off the synergy of all the people involved." WHAT IMPACT HAVE YOU MADE ON THE SCENE? "That's not for us to say. But what we can say is that besides Eye Q and

Superstition we were the first trance label in Germany." WHERE DO YOU GO FROM HERE? "Our next aim is to launch productions from artists like Future Breeze, John Johnson, Eddie Lock, Junk Food Junkies, Michael Parsberg and Kay Cee."

Marc Et Claude's 'Tremble' is out now on Positiva



### REVIEWS BY TAYO

Bugged Out resident Tayo has just released his new single, 'Fire Good'. His fave flick is *The Long Goodbye* – "Elliot Gould shuffling around as Marlowe is the main reason I started smoking at school. That and the fact that Sarah Ward smoked. She was fit."

### KRAFTY KUTS & SKOOL OF THOUGHT

**Sound Check (Supercharged)**  
A bassline the size of the third world debt, a slow-down-then-speed-up-again bit and an American MC reminding you it's a "bass check". You get the idea – this isn't the kind of thing you warm up with. Huge like Hattie Jacques, while School Of Thought's 'Devastate' on the flip is a slightly more subtle roller for the snobs among you. Brighton rolls.  
★★★★★

### MR REDS

**Can You Feel It (Virgin)**  
Rinsed hard by all and sundry on the underground, featured on 'The Stanton Sessions' and now on a major with one eye on daytime radio. Hence the female MC, who doesn't really add a great deal to the track. Best of the remixes on offer is the stutter funk of J Da Flex, though nothing touches the simplicity of the original.  
★★★★★

has been carving its way through dancefloors like Thierry Henry gliding through a shaky United defence.  
★★★★★

### MEAT KATIE & DYLAN RHYMES

**Moist (Whole Nine Yards)**  
That killer elastic funk groove we've come to know and love from this crew is present and correct here. A tribal shuffle and a housey break stroll on and the dancefloor is on fire. Just how Koma & Bones manage to better this already killer groove is a feat in itself, though the old school keyboard stabs and walkabout bassline just might have something to do with it. Splendid.  
★★★★★

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### ELIZABETH TROY

**4 Vinyl – Forever Young (Botchit & Scarper)**  
Vinyl Medley was one of the most recognisable people in dance music – his shirts were louder than the music he played, his hair as colourful as his character. He was also the driving force behind the Botchit & Scarper and Emotif labels before his death. 'Forever Young' sees some of his former charges reunited in his memory. Apprentice turned sonic sorcerer MJ Cole and SOUR/Emotif stalwart Elizabeth Troy ride the A-side, but it's two



more Botchit alumni who rock the bells on this page. Freq Nasty and BLIM reunite for a breaks/house excursion that utterly oozes élan. In short, an expert handling of a classic vocal and a fitting release to launch the '4 Vinyl' album project.  
★★★★★

### LOES LEE & MENEATER

**Personal Space (Moving Target)**  
Lowlands breaks with some low end theory to boot. DJs Loes Lee and Peter Meneater have been flying the breakbeat flag from Amsterdam through Loes' radio show and previous releases on Djax records. 'Personal Space' follows on from the wicked 'Jamaican Alien' with some heavy breakbeat funk. Dark Globe toughen things further on the flip.  
★★★★★

### CHRIS CARTER

**Echo Babylon (Botchit Breaks)**  
Another month, another high quality Chris Carter track, this time taken from the forthcoming 'Botchit Breaks 3' compilation. Heavy space funk, sci-fi strings and atmospherics are underpinned by a punchy break. Atomic Hooligan pick up the pace and add a welcome dancehall vibe with some well placed FX and one of their trademark basslines. Two names to watch this year in action.  
★★★★★

### LAYO & BUSHWACKA

**Let The Good Times Roll (XL)**  
Brilliant, obviously. Why? Because these two DJs can work a room better than Bill Clinton and have had the good sense to bring that knowledge to the studio. The result is two cold, cold grooves that are polished enough to work on the car stereo, and raw enough to get the hips hopping at three in the morning. 'Shining Through' on the flip is the natural heir to 'Deep South'. Uh huh. That good.  
★★★★★

### THE INSIDER

**Coded Motion (Resin)**  
Being the muppets we are, we've had this record for ages and only realised how good it was, predictably enough, when hearing it loud at Fabric one fine evening. Duh. Don Mei draws attention to his fledgling Resin label with a cold electro-break good enough to be licensed to the forthcoming 'Y4K'. Worth seeking out.  
★★★★★

### EK

**Old Futuristic (Sound Not Scene)**  
Melbourne's EK has been winning friends of late, and the third release from the Sound Not Scene label does his cause no harm at all. Both tracks kick up a hardcore stink, with the requisite number of twisted basslines to make the foot tap, but 'Watch Dis' has the funk to keep the hips swinging. Which is far more important isn't it?  
★★★★★

### FRAKAR

**Frakar (Functional Breaks)**  
Progressive electro breaks from a new FB signing, with a catchy guitar loop and a vaguely familiar-sounding vocal. Spoon Wizard takes time out from finishing his excellent debut album to slow the groove down and beef the beats up. One of the most consistent of labels does it again.  
★★★★★

### UBERZONE

**Bounce (TCR)**  
Another sampler from the forthcoming 'Tribalism' mix album by Rennie Pilgrem. Pilgrem and BLIM offered up two remixes to Uberzone's US label and had this 'secret mix' rejected. More fool the Yanks, as this version

## SPECIALIST ALBUMS

### VARIOUS ARTISTS

**Urban Funk Breaks 3 (Botchit Breaks)**  
The Botchit family past, present and future get together once more for another showcase. The line-up reads like a breakbeat history – refugees from the drum & bass scene like T Power, BLIM and Aquasky continue to delight at a slower tempo, while the next generation – Backdraft, SOTO and the excellent Atomic Hooligan – prove there is enough talent in the Botchit camp to see them through another decade at the top.  
★★★★★

### VARIOUS ARTISTS

**Boomtronics Volume 1 (Freakaboom)**  
A double CD compilation featuring exclusive tracks, remixes, new signings and a selection of previous Freakaboom releases covering every artist they've worked with over the last two years. CD1 shows the harder, tougher side of the label with artists like Koma & Bones and Objects chipping in, while CD2 gets a little funkier with tracks from 2 Sinners, Switchshift and Subtropic Versus Burns.  
★★★★★

### SMITH & MIGHTY

**Life Has A Way (IK7)**  
The Bristol duo responsible for the scores of breakbeat disciples that have come out of the city return to the fray. The trademark dub vibe struts alongside drum & bass rhythms, strings and a lovely female vocal. Better yet is the underground two-step skank of 'Bassline Fi Blow' with a singing MC in tow. Make way for the originals.  
★★★★★

### JASP 182

**Millennium Dawn (Mob)**  
Originally released on Mr 182's own Miami-based label, this piece of progressive electro relocates to Mob. Melbourne's rising stars Nu Breed are let loose on the remix, retaining the euphoric atmosphere of the original while opting for a leaner, tougher interpretation.  
[No mark because it's on Tayo's label!]

### RHOCA

**Biological Bassbins EP (Sound Of Habib)**  
More breakbeat science from Sweden. 'The Locust Position' rattles along somewhere between 4/4 and house, but it's 'Biological Bassbin' – where Rhoca sounds more like Freq Nasty than the dreadlocked one himself – that's the bigger success. The midtempo electro of 'Flash' completes a healthy single.  
★★★★★

### ARCON

**Miasma (Stripe)**  
The fourth release from this Brighton-based label is uptempo, uncompromising and more suitable for a techno set than a breaks one on the A-side, 'Miasma'. More pleasing is the old skool vibe and 303 licks in evidence on 'Element Exposure'. Trow would possibly breakdance to this.  
★★★★★

## LABEL STABLE FREAKA-BOOM

Freakaboom's Justin comes straight outta east London to give big ups to a selection of his artistes



**DATABASS:** "That's me! I lick the stamps and pay the bills. I have the power to consume copious amounts of caffeine and chain-smoke for weeks on end without sleeping."  
**KRAYMON:** "He's got that combination of production skill and pure dancefloor effect. He has most recently taken on the huge task of remixing Koma & Bones' 'Fade In (The Program)'."

**SWITCHSHIFT:** "One of the label's slickest producers, he is also responsible for many of the noises you hear on Sony PS2 games."  
**HEDROCK VALLEY BEATS:** "They're from Derry, they drink too much and they drop some of the funkiest mash-ups you could ever hope for."  
**GALAXIANS:** "He has a thing for old games, older computers and absolutely massive bass drops."

**ALEPH NULL:** "A new signing and another general smart bastard."  
**AETHER:** "Not afraid to up the tempo to get the job done."  
**SUBTROPIC VERSUS BURNS:** "Or Jake Smith Versus Ben Simmons. Easy to get along with, their special power is being nice."

'Boomtronics Volume 1' is out now on Freakaboom



## REVIEWS BY MARINA FORSYTHE & DOUG COOPER

Doug is the A&R Manager at 4 Liberty Records. Marina (M&M), his former partner in crime at the imprint, now works in music sponsorship and event management. Doug's favourite flick is *The Godfather*, because "it looks and sounds great on DVD", while Forsythe favours *Moulin Rouge* because she's "a sucker for a good musical".



instrumental for all budding scene DJs. Now Buskin and Mighty Mo take the mic and the main hook – "Heartless" – is sure to be all over Aya Napa this year. Simple two-step beats with a whistled melody make this one you'll be humming all day. (DC)

★★★★★

vocals, fat strings and funky guitar riffs. On the B-side, the 'Dirty Mix' is just that – chopped up vocals, machine gun snares and a big banging bassline. Quality. (M&M)

★★★★★

## SOUTHSIDE ALLSTARS Angel (Locked On)

Produced by JJ Lewis (Ruff, Tuff & Ready) and Jade Lion, 'Angel' has a sweetly chiming vocal from Elizabeth Kerr and a heavy, old-skool bassline, set against plucked strings. Big with the pirates, big in the clubs, and sure to score in Napa. (M&M)

★★★★★

## TIMMI MAGIC FEATURING BIBOW W.D.P.A (Red Spot)

Timmi's new Red Spot imprint presents 'W.D.P.A' – a melodic fusion of hip hop and garage that has a real party feel to it. Featuring Bibow – whose vocal style is a mixture of regga and hip hop – it demonstrates all of Timmi's strengths when it comes to vocal music. The basis of the track is very simple, but it will have you singing all day. (M&M)

★★★★★

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### ELEPHANT MAN, B-LIVE, MAJOR ACE, JOOKIE MUNDO Statue Of Liberty (4 Liberty)

**K**ing of dancehall Elephant Man was converted to the underground UK garage sound while partying at one of Heartless Crew's gigs during his recent British tour. A collaboration was duly set up, featuring Major Ace (Pay As You Go), B-Live and Jookie Mundo. Jookie is blowing up clubs with his ability to sign and MC, B-Live has been headlining all the major garage events across the country recently



and Major Ace is currently enjoying success with Pay As You Go. And Sovereign? His production is both dark yet deliciously commercial. This is already causing a commotion across clubland. Seek it out. (DC)

★★★★★

### 4 HERO Hold It Down (Remixes) (Talkin' Loud)

4 Hero have been getting great UKG remixes for their recent singles, and this continues that trend. Teebone's mix (featuring Pay As You Go Crew's Godsgift) goes for the standard two-step formula with Godsgift throwing down his street lyrics – but it's the outstanding remix by Exemen (aka Wookie) that fits the original song best. A summer hit. (DC)

★★★★★

### HEARTLESS CREW Superglue/Heartless Anthem (East West)

The relentlessly touring Crew release their first single since the huge deal with East West. They've been playing out the instrumental of this track for over six months, during which time it's become the most sought-after

### KRISTINE BLOND You Make Me Go Oooh (DnD Remix) (London)

Around on white label for a while now, this one goes off from the moment the opening steel pan electro sound bumps against DnD's trademark beats. Kristine's sassy vocals make it one that all the girls will love, while MC Easy Rider's unique south London style works well with the b-line. Also check out the Dubaholics mixes. Very dark! (M&M)

★★★★★

### DJ FEMME FATALE FEATURING DALIA Always And Forever (Middlerow)

DJ Femme Fatale teams up with veteran producer Nathan Lockett (Baffled Headtop) on Middlerow's latest. The main mix is a soulful blend of new girl Dalia's sweet



## REVIEWS BY SEAMUS HAJI

Muzik's smouldering Lothario of the decks, Seamus is a reslee at Pacha in London – "it's restored my faith in London clubbing" – and records as BBT. He's got a website, too: [www.seamushaji.com](http://www.seamushaji.com). His fave flick is *Angelheart* "because it's got a good twist."

### URBAN SOUL FEATURING ROLAND CLARKE

Flying To Be Free  
DJ PIERRE  
Dancin' (both King Street/  
Nitegrooves, USA)

New Jersey's Todd Gardner provides the remix for the bang-on-form Mr Clarke. A Moog-style bassline gives it some P-Funk flava while Roland's falsetto vocals get put through a voice box. Meanwhile, DJ Pierre rips up the classic Grey & Hanks boogie cut 'Dancin'', using the main chorus vocal hook and groove but adding his distinctive beats, which hook the dancefloor in and won't let go.

★★★★★

### WORD OF MOUTH Reach Out (Quietriot)

The Audiowhores' Graham Lord impresses on this solo project. It's got a lovely, soulful groove with a catchy Rhodes line and lush female vocal hook on top of a live-sounding bassline and strings. It has a distinct early Eighties jazz-funk feel that grabs you, takes you away and before you know it... it's all over. I need another copy!

★★★★★

### DEEPSTAR FEATURING DONNA ALLEN Sugar (Soulfulric Deep, USA)

Marc Pomeroy is back with a vocal cut this time, after his previous instrumental projects as Deepstar. He keeps the classic Soulfulric vibe going with Ms Allen working her magic as always. Brian Tappert joins Marc for the 'Jazz-N-Groove Sugar Rush' dub which absolutely rocks, and there's also the 'Bonus Sugar' dub, making two copies essential.

★★★★★

### COPYRIGHT PRESENTS ONE TRACK MIND

Good For You  
DJ JOHN 'JULIUS'  
KNIGHT

Knighttime Funk 3 (both Soulfulric, USA)  
Sam Holt and co follow the blueprint sound of Soulfulric and produce a bumpy vocal cut featuring Angie Brown. The song's melody is very similar to Michael Procter's 'Love Don't Live' (at least in the verses) and the vibe is very uplifting, with jerky keys and a jumpy, live bassline. Meanwhile, John 'Julius' Knight continues his slew of sample-based tracks and I

absolutely love 'My Mind', which uses a very funky early Eighties cut with a rockin' synth hook and bass. He got the funk!

★★★★★

### THE FUNK BANDIT Crazy Love (Gossip, USA)

Hott 22 come up with a slammin' remix for this Robbie Rivera production. The groove is infectious and perfect for peak time play with a deep male vocal asking "New York can you feel this? Tokyo can you feel this? Miami can you feel this?" I think they will be – I certainly am...

★★★★★

### CHACE Take My Time (Beat That Music)

Aurra's 'A Little Love' provides the vocal line over this happy boogie groove. It's produced by newcomers Chace with a little help from Brain 'Keys' Tharme and has proven to be very popular with the ladies, which isn't a bad thing. Bubbling live bassline and uplifting chords make this a must for sunnier times (hopefully) ahead this year.

★★★★★

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### ULTRA NATE I Don't Understand It (Strictly Rhythm, USA)

**M**ood II Swing are back on form with this new single for Ultra. Granted, it may not be another 'Free' but it is a quality vocal record, and one that does translate onto the dancefloor. It has the classic sound that Jon & Lem's vocal projects are known for, with live guitar and a soaring string arrangement. There's also a lovely change near the end of the track when the vocals finish and the groove goes a little darker, the



bassline changes and extra percussion creeps in. To continue the vibe you'll need two copies so you can use the dub, which is a must and really reminds me of Mood II Swing in their heyday. Quality!

★★★★★



## REVIEWS BY NED DENNY

Ned lives above a takeaway and his dad is an abstract painter, so a career reviewing d&b for Muzik and the arts for The New Statesman was always on the cards. His fave flick is *The Shining*, "cos of the way that little boy talks to his finger."

## SUV FEATURING TALI

### Do You Remember Me? (Full Cycle)

We dug the flamenco-scented beauty of SUV's 'Desert Rose' album, and 'Do You Remember Me?', brief as it is, bodes well for the next. It's simple in the extreme, Tali's sweet vocal accompanied by the merest suggestions of flute, guitar and double bass and backed by a bouncy break. The bare bones of a love song, really, but fun nonetheless.

★★★★

## WAX DOCTOR/UTAH JAZZ

### Never As Good (Remix)/Countdown (Utah Jazz)

Wax Doctor's remix of his own 'Never As Good' (around on dubplate for almost three years now) is big-boned and uncomplicated, a solid but slightly plodding reprise of a mid-Nineties classic. Utah Jazz's 'Countdown', surreptitiously slipping that daytime TV theme into a dense drum brew, is by far the better track. As countless old hardcore cuts proved, dark breaks and silly samples are a match made in heaven. Coming next: 'Watercolour Challenge' (Ray Keith Mix).

★★★★

## LOXY & INK

### The Twisted 3rd Mind (Metalheadz)

Listening to this typically warlike double pack from Metalheadz, it's hard not to keep thinking of Digital. There's that same metallic edge to the rhythms, the same urgency with which they come hurtling out of the speakers like rounds from a sub-machine gun, the same grim atmosphere of industrial dystopias. Hardly easy listening, then, but just the ticket for scaring cats and small children.

★★★★

## KILLER INSTINCT

### Panic Attack (Transparent)

Killer Instinct is the alias of Brighton junglists DJ Friction and Nu Balance, whose new label this is. Both tracks have that techy, race-for-the-finish-line vibe that they like on the south coast, deepened somewhat on 'Panic Attack' by a raw break, neat percussion and the odd electronic

'whoop!'. 'Skank Out' attempts to do the same with some creepy spoken word samples, but the joyless rhythms stick in the craw somewhat.

★★★

## APHRODITE

### All Over Me (V2)

Ragga jungle, a form of music so genuinely, uncompromisingly punk it makes So Solid Crew sound like The Monkees, is surely far too good to be left marooned in 1994. Praise be then to Aphrodite, whose Barrington Levy-sampling 'All Over Me' drags its moody ass right into the present day. The darker, dubbier A-side is the better of two almost identical versions, both being distinguished by lightening breaks and hoover bass.

★★★★

## VARIOUS ARTISTS

### Classic Remixes Part 2 (Back2Basics)

After the success of Part 1 (which brought new versions of 'The Horns', 'The Way', 'What's The Time' and 'Back2Life'), Back2Basics come with another double pack of old school re-rubs. Eight years on from the originals, what's most apparent is how synthetic and, well, basic the 2002 rhythms sound. On some of the tracks (DJ Spice's brilliant, brutal reworking of 'Real Love', say) the combination of dumb beats and ethereal samples works a treat, while on others it just makes you long for the superior breaks of '94.

★★★

## ILL LOGIC & RAF

### FEATURING ELIZABETH TROY

#### Forever Young (Emotif)

Re-recorded as a tribute to Botchit & Scarper's Vini Medley, Logic & Raf's version of hardcore classic 'Forever Young' is a subtle, sparse drum track with strong similarities to early Rhythm Is Rhythm cuts. This is a whole new version as opposed to a remix, remember, Troy having stepped in to redo her original vocal. For those who think it never quite takes off, Ray Keith's mix is predictably 'Amen'-fierce and also has a lot more of Elizabeth Troy. Time is the fire in which we burn. RIP.

★★★★

## TWISTED INDIVIDUAL

### The F-Word (Formation)

That Twisted should come out with a track that isn't called something like 'Malignant Tumour' or 'Anal Probe' is something of an event. That it's also fairly listenable is cause for celebration. 'The F-Word' sticks your typical, white van-driving charmer (you're taking fucking liberties! fuck off!) inside one of those odd, stilted rhythms that, post-'Bodyrock', we're hearing more and more of. Overleaf, the bongo-laced funk of, ahem, 'Swab Test' does the Formation thing with aplomb. Nurse - the screens!

★★★★

## SINTHETIX

### Recall EP (Subtitled)

Four tracks with the atmosphere, poise and rhythmic dexterity we've come to expect from Teebee's label. Everything he has anything to do with, in fact, is so instantly recognisable that it almost forms a mini genre of its own. The four tracks here aren't in any way flashy or overblown, but the lightfooted grace of their beats has a level of inventiveness that most dark producers seem to ignore entirely.

★★★★

## SPECIALIST ALBUMS

### VARIOUS ARTISTS

#### Industrial Revolutions (Industry)

React's drum & bass compilations have always been better packages than most - witness the seminal 'Dark Side' joints, the 'Artcore' series and, more recently, the superb '21st Century Drum & Bass' and 'Drum & Bass Arena' sets. Now, here's the debut album from the React-affiliated Industry imprint, a set whose clanking sounds and piston-tight beats fully justify the name. The quality of tracks ranges from the excellent (the cavernous, machine-floor funk of Total Science and Narcosis) to the unlistenable. Contributions from Cause4Concern, Kemal & Rob Data and David Carbone resemble a kind of hobbled, depressive trance.

★★★★

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### PESHAY FEATURING CO-ORDINATE

#### U Got Me Burning (Cubik)

Not one but two big tracks, each of which would be Vital on its own merits. You're certain to have heard 'U Got Me Burning' by now, its distorted vocals, unremitting beats and shrill signature-sound reprising the death-by-ecstasy vibe of the late hardcore period. We love it, but 'Fuzion' is where Peshay really excels himself, and gets his new Cubik imprint off to the brightest of starts. It's just an old-fashioned jazz-stepper at heart, but the big drop,



announced by blaring horns and a voluminous bassline, is simply phenomenal. A strange, metallic percussive tic and yet another drop only compound the mayhem. This deserves to be one of the year's biggest tracks - and it's a B-side! Serious, serious stuff.

★★★★★

## SOURCE DIRECT & INSTRA MENTAL

### Strike Like A Cobra (Source Direct)

Source Direct return with a serious piece of music. In stark contrast to the toys-for-boys atmosphere of most dark tracks, 'Strike Like A Cobra' feels like the real thing. This has much to do with the way its complex, multi-layered, live-sounding rhythms not only underpin the track's other elements (horns, sirens, reversed melodies and that killer vocal sample) but also keep them in check. Deadly but restrained. Turn to 'Strictly Red' for more eerie brilliance.

★★★★★

## GREG PACKER

### You're The One (Tangent)

Greg Packer comes from Australia, but there's no place more surely evoked by these tracks than the dancefloor at London's Swerve.

Packer has got the jungle soul/liquid funk thing down to a T, his bass-propelled rhythms and fragments of synthetic melody as close to classic house as they are to jungle. Fans of High Contrast, Carlito & Addiction and Calibre should listen up.

★★★★★

## MARKY & XRS LAND

### LK (V)

The winter's most pleasurable anthem finally hits the shops. Like Zinc's 'Casino Royale' or High Contrast's 'Suddenly', 'LK' has an indefinable magic about it. Is it those chopped-up vocals, those indescribably soft melodies or the irrepressible chirpiness of that Brazilian guitar? Or is it simply that cheerfulness is in decidedly short supply in the world of drum & bass? Whatever: you know it, you love it and now you can have it.

★★★★★

## LABEL STABLE

### FALLEN ANGELS/UTAH JAZZ

Luke Wilson - aka Utah Jazz - submits to label cross-examination



WHAT'S THE BACKGROUND OF THE TWO LABELS? "Fallen Angels was set up by myself and Alex Reece about two years ago. The name was one that Alex and Wax Doctor used to record under, and our first release was 'Pulp Fiction 2000'/'The Shockwave'. The new Utah Jazz imprint came about because of the sheer volume of material myself and Alex have been making!"

WHAT SORT OF SOUND ARE YOU PUSHING? "Alex is an old school techno head and that vibe's always there in his tracks. As for me, I've been buying records for the last 10 years and I find myself constantly heading back to those early hardcore tunes for the beats and the sampling. I like incorporating weird stuff from old films or adverts - hence 'Countdown'!"

WHAT'S NEXT? "The second release on Utah Jazz will be a double-header by Alex and I. Next up on Fallen Angels is a remix EP with new versions of 'All Night Long' by me, Danny Byrd and High Contrast."

'Roller Disco' by Utah Jazz & Alex Reece and 'Never As Good Remix' by Wax Doctor are out now on Fallen Angels and Utah Jazz respectively

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## REVIEWS BY TONY FARSIDES

Former Marks & Spencer employee Tony devotes his time to listening to music and seeking to preserve the wildlife of urban London. His favourite film is *The Godfather*, "because every time I think I've got out, it drags me back in!"

## METHOD MAN AND REDMAN Part II Remix/Let's Do It (Def Jam)

Now in its third incarnation, 'Part II' of Meth and Reggie Noble's 'How High' single has been given a remix from the very up and coming Megahertz production crew. A darker beat than the original, there's also some very twisted, oriental-style beats on the flipside, 'Let's Do It.' ★ ★ ★ ★

## BUSTA RHYMES FEATURING P DIDDY & PHARELL Pass The Courvoisier Part Two (J)

On Busta's album the original version of this track didn't particularly stand out, but this new remix is absolutely on fire. Produced by The Neptunes and featuring Pharrell Williams on the chorus, this tune sees the Virginia producers shift their sound away from their trademark edgy synths to a fuller, more musical and live sound. With an almost Latin feel and a killer chorus, this is indispensable. ★ ★ ★ ★

## MOBB DEEP FEATURING LIL' MO Pray For Me (Loud)

The singles just keep coming from the current Mobb Deep album and it's testament to its quality that the standard isn't dropping. The latest arrival is the LP's opening cut, 'Pray For Me', featuring the unmistakable vocals of Lil' Mo. Another safe purchase, or, if you slept on the album, do yourself a favour and get a copy of that. ★ ★ ★ ★

## JAGUAR WRIGHT FEATURING BILAL I Can't Wait (MCA/Universal)

The latest addition from the Philadelphia soulstress production line is Jaguar Wright. This single features the usual Philly brigade with James Poysner producing and The Roots providing the instrumentation. There's a real Prince feel with Wright working well with guest vocalist Bilal. Not earth-shattering, but pleasant nonetheless. ★ ★ ★ ★

## NEXT/RL FEATURING JERMAINE DU PRI Looking For Love/ Ghetto (J)

Unbelievably, Next's excellent last LP 'Welcome To Nextacy' failed to sell. This latest single now sees a switch of label to J Records and features Next member RL on one side and the group as a whole on the other. The Next song 'Looking For Love' is the most obvious of the two and has been produced once again by Naughty By Nature's Kay Gee in his usual good times, uptempo manner. The RL cut 'Ghetto' is a bit darker, but still good. Overall, a nice twelve. ★ ★ ★ ★

## JIMMY COZIER She's All I Got (Reggae Remix) (J)

Yet another release on J Records is this reggae remix of Jimmy Cozier's very soulful 'She's All I Got' which was released last year. Featuring Sean Paul, the record does what it says on the label and fans of the original will find this also gives them a dancefloor-friendly option. ★ ★ ★ ★

## GLEN LEWIS Don't You Forget It (Epic)

Absolutely classic new soul, very much in the Stevie Wonder vein. There's already a couple of bootleg mixes around, giving it more uptempo groove, but the original of this knock-out song really is the one. Lewis' debut album is also worth a listen if more downtempo soulful moods are your thing. ★ ★ ★ ★

## KOOL G RAP FEATURING JAGGED EDGE Ride On (Rawkus)

Following on from the great success of 'My Life', Kool G Rap continues his rejuvenation with another r&b-flavoured track. This time out, there's a slight West Coast feel to this uptempo number which features Jagged Edge on the chorus. Not a real grabber but a good record nonetheless. Who ever thought Rawkus would have ended up going in this direction? ★ ★ ★ ★

## ISYSS FEATURING JADAKISS Day & Night (Arista)

A female vocalist has her debut remixed by Shek'spere. The beats have a vintage drum machine feel and Jadakiss provides a reliably slick guest rap. Again, not a particularly outstanding track, but a nice little something for a compilation tape. ★ ★ ★ ★

## FAITH EVANS FEATURING FOXY BROWN Alone In This World (Bad Boy)

The obvious choice for second release from Faith's 'Faithless' album had to be this uptempo number, which uses the David Porter loop used most famously by Biggie on 'Who Shot Ya?'. For the single version, Foxy Brown is on hand to pep things up further. Very good. ★ ★ ★ ★

## JAY Z & R KELLY Best Of Both Worlds (Jive)

The magic pairing of the two giants of hip hop and r&b has now been expanded from guest appearances to a full album project. This symphonic first single is an indicator of the general feel of the forthcoming album, which is set to be one of the LPs of the year. You knew it would be great. . . ★ ★ ★ ★

## SPECIALIST ALBUMS

### VARIOUS ARTISTS Red Star Sounds Volume 1: Soul Searching (Epic)

This album is the result of an American initiative headed by VH1 to encourage young talent in urban areas. Thus unknown singers are featured here alongside established artists such as Jill Scott and Erykah Badu. The new jacks such as Rebecca Faye acquit themselves very well but the star of the show is India Arie with her stunning 'Butterfly'. ★ ★ ★ ★

## VITAL RELEASE ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### FAT JOE FEATURING ASHANTI What's Luv? (Atlantic)

Since the death of his sometime rhyming partner Big Pun, Fat Joe has been the premier heavyweight Latino hip hop MC. His latest album 'J.O.S.E.' has already provided one smash via Joe's ecstasy-fuelled duet with R Kelly, 'We Thuggin'', which featured the lovely couplet "Speech slurin'/Dirty urine". This track, however, looks set to be the LP's big hit, and features the rapidly rising star Ashanti, fresh from Ja Rule's 'Always On Time', who also has her own



debut single, 'Foolish', out this month (see below). The words are as hardcore as ever – apparently ladies, Joe doesn't go down – but the chorus will get the girls on the dancefloor each and every time. Great thugged out, cutting edge commercial hip hop. ★ ★ ★ ★

### ASHANTI Foolish (Def Soul)

Nearly scoring Vital Release, young Ashanti makes her debut after her various guest appearances by dusting off De Barge's classic 'Stay With Me', as used by Biggie on 'Give Me One More Chance'. The track is simplicity itself, with Ashanti's high octave vocals making this instantly appealing. Currently huge in New York and a safe bet for purchase. ★ ★ ★ ★

### MR CHEEKS FEATURING PETEY PABLO, MISSY ELLIOTT & P DIDDY Lights, Camera, Action (Remix) (Universal)

Reviewed here first a number of months ago, it's great to see this tune got the credit it deserved. Now, the addition of some verses from Missy, P Diddy and the growling Petey Pablo breathe fresh life into

things. A pure party record, if you missed it first time around, grab it with both hands now. ★ ★ ★ ★

### SLUM VILLAGE Tainted/Get Live (Barek)

The Timbaland-influenced 'Get Live' was first reviewed here as an indie release a couple of months back. Now it would appear that Slum Village have got a deal through Interscope, hence this new single 'Tainted' with 'Get Live' repackaged on the flip. Slum Village continue their move away from the indie hip hop sound and forego Jay Dee's production once again for a more r&b-edged sound. It's proving a very successful tactic, with 'Tainted' a real brooding cut featuring a powerful male r&b chorus and great lyrics. Meanwhile, 'Get Live' sounds better than ever. Highly recommended. ★ ★ ★ ★

## STATE OF THE ARTIST ASHANTI

A sharp new songwriting talent for urban fans to slaver over



Appearing on a Ja Rule hit is a surefire way of having a career of your own before long, it seems. The latest beneficiary is Ashanti, but think of her as a backing singer that got lucky at your peril.

"I'd already started on my album before the Ja Rule hook-up came about," says the Long Island native. "My manager introduced me to Irv

Gotti, who came up with that collaboration, and the one with Fat Joe on 'What's Luv'. There was definitely a benefit to rolling with these guys, because it familiarised me with the music game. But now I'm ready for all that myself!"

Listeners will become quite familiar with Ashanti's state of mind through the album – she wrote all the tracks, which cover subjects

from relationship breakdowns to unfulfilled infatuations.

"I've had guys saying that my songs have helped them articulate feelings that they couldn't put into words themselves. That's such a compliment, because I don't understand guys' minds at all!"

The album 'Ashanti' and single 'Foolish' are out now on Def Soul



## REVIEWS BY WILL ASHON

Big Dada's daddy Will has been writing for Muzik for ever, and is less dangerous than his picture might suggest. His favourite film is the Marx Brothers' Duck Soup. Why? "A child of five would understand this. Send someone to fetch a child of five."

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### EDAN Primitive Plus (Lewls)

What can I say? The little fella's really gone and done it now. Edan is from somewhere else and lives in Boston. He makes hip hop that sounds a little like it comes from the classic era (87-90?) and his songs have titles like 'Sing It Shiftface' and 'MCs Smoke Crack'. He's funny, clever and punk in his approach. He likes stupid reverb on voices and drums. He also rhymes like a motherfucker – a loose, free flow that brings to mind Gift Of Gab just a little, but with a harder



edge. He is going to be a very big star and I wouldn't be surprised if Mr Diddy rang up offering him big Benjamins to join Bad Boy. Until then, the UK's Mike Lewls can be very proud to have released this album on his label. Like the man says – rap perfection.

★★★★★

### LEWIS PARKER It's All Happening Now (Melankolic/Virgin)

Lewis Parker returns, better than ever, with a rougher, more in-yer-face take on his hip hop blueprint. Over some kind of ragged free jazz big band stabs, Parker and up-and-comer Ricochet Klashnekoff rip it – a real angry anthem. 'Schemes' and 'What The Ancients Say' round off a good, deep package.

★★★★★

### BLAK TWANG Kik Off (Bad Magic/Wall Of Sound)

Taipanic – aka Tony Rotten – returns with the single which should take him through to the release of his new album. It's a straight-up blazer, designed with the clubs and radio in mind, all hooky stabs on the beat and the Rottenous demonstrating that he's lost none of the lyrical

attack which has made him one of the godfathers of the scene over here for well over five years. If there's a reservation, it's the loss of that distinctively London feel to the beats that he used to have. The man is a giant, though.

★★★★★

### JEHST Alcoholic Author (YNR)

Jehst continues his attempt to win the Most Prolific Man In UK Hip Hop award with yet another single, this one kicking off with the first nod to Charles Bukowski I can remember in hip hop (refutations on a postcard please). Joined by Kyza and Ricochet Klashnekoff on 'Nightbreed', Jehst continues to roll out clever, streetwise rhymes which have a real twinge of melancholy to them. His tunes aren't necessarily fun, but they're always affecting.

★★★★★

## VARIOUS ARTISTS Lexoleum Two (Lex)

More leftfield maybe-hip hop by pale people from the WarpmotWarp sub-label. The real coup is 'Eneby Kurs' by Subtle (cLOUDDEAD's Doseone and Jel) which is a very beautiful piece of almost-rock. Edan delivers an amiable instrumental and Kid Acne and Req do their familiarly fucked thing, while Peaches makes Princess Superstar sound like a reasonably adequate rapper. A really nice idea, though, with good range to it and much potential.

★★★★★

## LIFE Moviedrome (Zebra Traffic)

The first release from this Tru Thoughts offshoot comes from the Phi-Life Cipher camp and what you get isn't a million miles from a new single by the Luton crew – tight beats, furious cutting and a fast rap. 'Slave's Revenge' – a chilling story rhyme about exactly what you'd expect – shows an expansion of traditional Phi-Life thematics and a rare attempt at real content in hip hop.

★★★★★

## DAILY PLANNET We Like To Party (All Natural, USA)

After Afu-Ra and Dilated, here's another reggae-influenced hip hop track, with beats courtesy of sometime Common producer Doug Infinite. Gary, Indiana twins Daily Planet don't reach the heights their label-mates/bosses All Natural are capable of and don't seem to have that much to say – but it's pretty good stuff.

★★★★★

## THE WEATHERMEN Same As Never Was (Def Jux, USA)

With the implosion of Rawkus, Def Jux has effortlessly stepped into the role of NY's premier indie, which is some revenge for ELP. The Weathermen is his all-star crew and he also provides the beat for Mr Lif and Murs to rock on the flip. Can Ox and Aesop Rock may have established that the label isn't all about the former CoFlow tactician, but this can only act as a stopgap until his much-anticipated, stunning solo album. Watch this space.

★★★★★

## BLU RUM 13 It Is (Jazz Fudge)

Blu Rum has a voice which just makes you want to like him, but the amiability of his approach can obscure how good he is. But with DJ Vadim and Mr Thing providing the first two beats and a remix of his minor classic 'Sleep Speechless' finishing off the package, it's only a matter of time before folks take note.

★★★★★

## PITMAN Phone Pitman 2 (Son)

Pitman is a fat bastard and spilt his pint down my Adidas top at the Coalville N.U.M. Breakdancing Championships in 1982 (Arthur Scargill won). He is also the supreme lyricist of non-specific, non-urban wanna-b-boy fart jokes. He's The Streets, basically, but will get less broadsheet coverage cos he only plays working men's clubs and didn't leave the Midlands for Brixton. Y'get me?

★★★★★

## 57TH DYNASTY Break Free (Fas Forward)

The Brixton-based crew continue to progress as quickly as their DIY label name would suggest. The remix of 'Break Free' has a groove that sounds almost like an uptempo Massive Attack outtake. Combined with some smooth soul vocals and fine MCing, it's about a million miles from their early, ragged, post-Wu emissions. The original, meanwhile, is built round a mournful violin line and a bounce/dancehall beat that places it in the vanguard of the new British sound. Excellent.

★★★★★

## DECKWRECKA Vibekiller! (Ronin)

Agzi returns with Scare Electric on a hard-rocking, effortless combination of spy theme guitar, foghorns and Mr Electric's gruff ragga stylings. He then apparently takes the mic himself on the eco-tract 'A Better Tomorrow?' before 'The Big Picture' is seemingly launched by Terrence Stamp (John Swift, in fact) before setting off on a huge posse cut, where the beat slips through a number of rhythmic variants. A fine taster for his third album.

★★★★★

## SPECIALIST ALBUMS

### X-ECUTIONERS Built From Scratch (Loud/Epic)

Hey, I got a great idea. Lets, like, take one of these scratch DJ type crews, yeah? Like the, erm, invincible Scratch Hammers or the other ones – yeah, the ones from New York. But let's not have too much scratching, yeah? Cos that, like, bores people. So we'll just get a load of those rapper guys on there instead and they can like rap about scratching. What the fuck? Why not? Yeah, and like one of the guys from Linkin Park? Coooool. Okay, it's not as bad as that. Just set the CD player to skip every other track, particularly number 11.

★★★★★

### J-LIVE All Of The Above (Coup D'État, USA)

Due to major label nonsense sinking his first label, J-Live was one of the stars of the mid-Nineties New York underground who didn't break through quite how he was expected to. Then there were further problems with the indie he was signed to until, at last, here we are. For a moment you'd be excused for thinking that the effortlessly swinging jazziness of 'Braggin' Writes' was still dominant, but then there are double-time breaks, the fantastic skank of 'Satisfied', the gentle wisdom of 'Like This Anna', the old skool beat on 'Sir Of Echoes', the De La stylings of 'All In Together Now' or the straight-up strangeness of 'Happy Belated'. But there's a problem that at 77 minutes on CD, it feels like the man has been waiting too long. This is a bit of a splurge, a huge collection of tracks rather than an album. But he's still ahead of so many people, and at least it isn't so long just in order to accommodate all the guests.

★★★★★

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF JUNIOR DISPROL

More stereotypical hip hop golings on with the man who's been called 'the Welsh Eminem' (by us, just now)



I am rudely awoken by the incessant wailings of a gypsy tart whose services I procured the night before the morning after. Hobnob crumbs on the quilt lend a surly note to my repose. Breakfast is a plate of devilled kidneys and a brace of kippers followed by a shot of laudanum to assist one's constitution, and the catalyst as I

commune with the muse. "Using Himalayan 'Yakking' techniques to avoid the ticket inspector's baleful gaze, I alight the 10:38am to Coryton via Cardliff. The first port of call on my arrival is my dear friend Lemuir 'Coop' Cooper. He has access to fragments of Brigadier P Purdy's thigh bone, a ouija board and some electricity. Beasts are conjured

and, at some point, released into the woods. This conjuring will continue for some time until the fiery ball weighs heavy in the sky. With a pinch of snuff and a firm hand shake, I climb aboard the belly of the great steel worm as it winds its way through the counties, again without paying."

Fleapit's single is out now on SFDB



### REVIEWS BY DR BOB JONES

Dr Bob has a weekly radio show (The Surgery, BBC London 94.9 FM, Thursdays, midnight-2am) and has been DJing since before the invention of the gramophone. His favourite film is *Once Upon A Time In America*, "but why can't you get it on DVD?!"

### YUKIHIRO FUKUTOMI & JOSH MILAN

**Love Each Other (King Street)**

One of Japan's leading exponents of soulful dance gets to grips with one of America's leading lights and the result is brilliant. If this doesn't get accepted by the UK's modern soul scene, then I'm afraid all is lost for quality music – period.

★★★★★

### KENNY CARVAJAL & JOHN REDMAN

**Rise (Music 101)**

For those us who've had had our heads finely tuned to the Chicago underground for the last 10 years, Mr Redman is no stranger. His ability to

turn a simple song into a monumental, soulful anthem is legendary. Here, he comes on strong once more and produces vinyl ecstasy for us all to savour and smile about. A classic in the making, oh yes!

★★★★★

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### JAGUAR WRIGHT

Denials, Delusions & Decisions (Universal)

The USA is a hotbed of quality newcomers; a never-ending conveyor belt at the Factory Of Black Music, where the end product is 100% proof soul. This lady is the latest in a line of voices from the Mothership, and what a voice she's got. This lady will get inside your head. In fact, given big enough speakers, she could shatter the sound barrier – oh yes, this is audio danger beyond



belief. Imagine the awareness of Scott or Stone matched with the rawness and sass of Millie Jackson – that's what Ms Wright serves up on this maxi. In other words, you need this big time!

★★★★★

### AUTOMAGIC

**One That Got Away (Chilli Funk)**

London's finest continue their onslaught on the dancefloor with one of those tunes that is so simple, so infectious and which gets better with every play. Great vocals, fresh lyrics – let's hope this will be around for a long time!

★★★★★

### VICTOR DAVIES

**Sound Of The Samba (JCR)**

Victor's last album got the thumbs-up all over the globe, so it comes as no surprise when the Masters beg to rewash this early summer song with its Latino vibe and carnival mood. This is nothing short of stunning, so acquire it immediately – please.

★★★★★

## SPECIALIST ALBUMS

### D-INFLUENCE PRESENTS... D-Vas (Dome)

You know you've made it when Ultra Nate, Shola Ama, Sarah Anne Webb and Romina Johnson are queuing up to add their voices to your latest maxi. This is an incredibly credible collection of quality vocalists and musicians, all under the guidance of Kwame, Steve & E Baden Powell, otherwise known as D-Influence. Perfect.

★★★★★

### BLAZE Spiritually Speaking (Slip 'N' Slide)

This long player heralds the second coming of two of the most soulful heads on the planet. Along with

MAW and The Basement Boys, Josh Milan and Kevin are the true leaders of modern soul. This is the best thing they've ever done: earthy, organic, deep and incredibly uplifting – it really is the next level. Look out world, the lords of the dance have arrived!

★★★★★

### BAH SAMBA Bah Samba (Estereo)

Brighton's finest have always excited our dancefloors, ever since they graced our decks with their Latino-flavoured 'Reach Inside'. At last we have their debut album, and what a choice cut is it too – not a naff track in sight, real instruments with an incredible live feel and a female vocal that definitely hits the spot. Absolutely marvellous.

★★★★★

# Roots & Dancehall

## TRAINSPOTTING



### REVIEWS BY KEVIN MARTIN

Part-time Techno Animal member, part-time cyber-ragga producer (as The Bug) and full-time Billi Bailey lookalike Kevin's favourite film is *Eraserhead* – "because I'm still no closer to understanding it all these years after it came out."

### SANDOZ

**King Dread (Soul Jazz)**

Two dancefloor-orientated cuts culled from Soul Jazz's reissue of ex-Cabaret Voltaire knob-twiddler Richard H Kirk's obscure 'Sandoz In Dub' set. 'King Dread' opts for a robot skank and foregoes the paranoid intensity of his now-deceased industrial outfit. Rasta spectres and floating brass lines elevate the cyclic loops to a heady state. Flipside 'Higher Than That' uses the same methodology, but lacks the prowess of the A-side's mechanoid stepper.

★★★★

### BUS

**Westen (~Scape)**

The title track is a delirious dream cycle for those addicted to synthesized dub. Formed by moonlighting members of Berlin's Submission and Sun Electric, Bus provide seductive deep heat treatment for all those jaded ears bored of digi-dub's soulless repetition. Unfortunately, the flatlining flip 'Spanish Techno' fails to emulate the irresistible analogue glow of 'Westen'. There's also an Orb-like AG Penthouse remix.

★★★★

## SPECIALIST ALBUMS

### DE FACTO Legende Du Scorpion A Quatre Queues (Modern City)

The Afro-fitted part of now-defunct hair-rockers At The Drive In have gone off on a bizarre tangent, and are now kicking out dub jams in a pretty authentic manner. Tracks like 'Amkhz1' may lack delicacy, but they more than compensate for that with a rich vein of post-rock psychedelia. With lounge bar keyboards coating their admirably intense rhythm section, this dub album's delay-infested tracks will find favour with On-U headz, Wordsound fiends and fans of the Beastie Boys' reggae detours.

★★★★★

### VARIOUS ARTISTS Bad Kalic/Martial Arts Part Two (both Greensleeves)

Two rhythm collections, one striking gold, the other flogging a dead horse. Freak beat gem 'Bad Kalic' is admirably spun out by the tumbling synthetic strings, frog

bass pulsations and headspinning, panned drum rolls. Of the vocalists, Mega Banton and Frisco Kid triumph by virtue of special FX and battle stance respectively. The fairly anonymous 'Martial Arts' cut, though, displays its minimal electro grind across 20 synth-stabbed versions. Merciless, Jagwa and Bling Dawg save the day for this workmanlike dancehall monster.

★★★★★ and ★★

### CAPLETON Still Blazin' (VP)

Following up the mighty 'More Fire' with this dauntingly impressive selection is enviable. The fire and brimstone preacher chats up a storm, particularly on the awesome ragga rants. Capleton's conversion from slack you! to conscious rasta has been a perplexing ride, as he can switch from righteous tirades to openly homophobic diatribes in the blink of an eye. With primordially powerful Nyabingi drumming programmed next to the irresistible bashment swagger, this massive album is intimidating in the best and worst senses.

★★★★★

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### AUGUSTUS PABLO

The Very Best Of Augustus Pablo (Jet Star Gold)

A faultless budget compilation of the finest musical spells from the late Horace Swaby, aka Augustus Pablo, this features some of the most bewitching recordings ever to be issued from Jamaica. The haunting tone of Pablo's sublimely simple melodica playing remains breathtakingly beautiful, echoing down the years in a blur of Far Eastern scales and naively endearing melodies. The



performances for reggae's finest producers (Perry, Tubby, Santic, Lee etc) collected on this album (licensed from Pablo's own, extraordinary Rockers label) will seal Pablo's well-deserved immortality.

★★★★★



## REVIEWS BY CHRIS COCO AND PHIL MISON

DJ/producer Chris speaks softly and carries an indie chill stick. DJ Phil lives in an Essex village where "everyone has their own mugs in the pub". Chris's fave film is Blade Runner – "the Vangelis soundtrack makes me want to cry". Phil plumps for The Straight Story, "a simple tale with a great Angelo Badalamenti soundtrack and fantastic cinematography."



## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### THE CINEMATIC ORCHESTRA

All That You Give (Ninja Tune)

The first single from J Swinscoe's new album is – dare we say it? – a bit of a classic. It's a laid back, jazzy song featuring the wonderfully deep, soulful vocals of Fontella Bass [What a fantastic name! – Ed.]. All the elements – a great song, a lush arrangement and a gorgeous vocal performance – add up to create a truly majestic musical moment. The package includes a very good minimal cut up house



remix from Matthew Herbert and a slightly mellower but equally chopped interpretation by Dr Rockit (another Matthew Herbert pseudonym), but for once the remixes are mere garnish for the main event. Awesome. (CC)

★★★★★

### MR NATURAL

#### Do You Feel What I'm Thinking (Critical Mass)

Of the various versions of this smooth, mellow song, the one that's going down best so far is Mr Natural's 'Sam Mix', while the Blue States Mix is definitely the most trendy. A tune that is going to sound great on the beach. (CC)

★★★★★

### KANDE

#### In A Shower Of Blossom (Lifeline)

A lovely, mellow Latin deep houser from the consistently good Lifeline label, complete with laid back pianos, warm pads and shuffling percussion. The B-side, 'A Swinging Camel Driver', is a percussive ambient track complete with spacey keyboards and cascading pianos. Recommended. (PM)

★★★★★

### BLOCK 16

#### Morning Sun (Remixed) (Nuphonic)

A collection of remixes from Block 16's acclaimed 'Morning Sun' album. The standout tracks are Brennan Green and Daniel Wang's epic mix of 'Elektrocution', which manages to squeeze elements of dub, electro and disco into its three minutes, and Dubtribe's mix of 'My Sunshine', a percussive groove featuring the late Bim Sherman on vocals. (PM)

★★★★★

### KALLE, MAGNUS & DANIEL

#### Kyss Mitt Hjerter (Tamburin)

Oslo club scene faces Kalle, Magnus & Daniel's 'Kyss Mitt Hjerter' is a laid back, bassline-driven slice of spaced out disco. Flipside, 'Jazz Man Jazz' is a more leftfield track featuring moody keyboards and off beat drums. (PM)

★★★★★

### VIRGIN SOULS

#### Next Meal (Jugula)

Despite sounding a bit too much like Massive Attack with Horace Andy on vocals, the first single from Virgin Souls is actually a really good song. Also included is a promising instrumental version of their next single 'Personality'. Definitely ones to watch. (CC)

★★★★★

### HINT

#### The Beau Selectah EP (Deep Water)

The third release from this new label is probably their best so far. 'Quite Spectacular' is the soundtrack to one of those languid English summer afternoons, with plenty of angelic vocals and drifting melodies. Even better is John Kennedy's remix of 'Federation', which is a beautiful, slightly jazzy soundscape. Nice. (CC)

★★★★★

### REVOLVO

#### Guns (Touch Tones)

The title track on this limited edition, four-track seven-inch is a proper Sunday Best-style indie-dance stomper with skittering wobbly beats and a dodgy country & western sample. 'Rising Slowly', the other standout, is a tiny ambient moment – an easy listening waltz, some whistling and extracts from the shipping forecast. Essential. (CC)

★★★★★

## STATE OF THE ARTIST DJ PATHAAN

The chill guru who runs Stoned Asia Music, spins global beats, and sports a very nice beard



WHAT ARE YOU UP TO AT THE MOMENT? "I just got back from touring Brazil. Super nice and the people were very receptive – so much so that I'll be going back in April for a massive festival called Skol Beats 2002 in Sao Paulo." TELL US ABOUT STONED ASIA. "It started in September 1997 as a Tuesday night residency at The Junction in Brixton, where

## SPECIALIST ALBUMS

### CUSTOM BLUE

#### All Follow Everyone (Island Universal)

Custom Blue, we reckon, are the perfect modern chill group, mixing good songs and acoustic instruments with cutting edge digital and electronic production techniques. So this album comes highly recommended. There are no real 'dance' tracks on here, but it is a great album that rewards repeated listening. (CC)

★★★★★

### VARIOUS ARTISTS

#### Om Lounge 6 (Om)

This lounge series has a good formula and they're sticking to it. It's jazzy, it's pretty upbeat (in a relaxed way), there are lots of beats, the odd deep house moment and plenty of nice melodies. So while the early fans may be tiring of the vibe, new converts will be thrilled by this compilation of fresh sounds from the likes of Block 16, Dzihan & Kamien, Rollercone and the wonderfully named The Beard. (CC)

★★★★★

### VARIOUS ARTISTS

#### Door To The Zouk (Wrasse)

This double CD aims to reflect the diverse range of music from round the world played at the PoNaNa chain of venues, touching on everything from house to reggae to bossa nova. There are a few cuts, like Sergio Mendez's 'For What It's Worth', that everybody should own and a few, like the remix of Sonique's 'Feels So Good', that no one should ever be forced to listen to again. Quite commercial, but rather jolly nonetheless. (CC)

★★★★★

### MONICA QUEEN

#### Ten Sorrowful Mysteries (Creeping Bent)

Monica would be called alt.country if she was from Nashville instead of Glasgow. Here, she's

accompanied by a drum machine, effects, some strumming and some distorted guitars, creating a slightly desolate soundscape for her extraordinary voice. It's lo-fi for sure, but the quality of the the songs shines through. Take a step sideways from Mazzy Star and Sigur Ros and you'll get it. (CC)

★★★★★

### VARIOUS ARTISTS

#### Buddha Bar IV (George V)

Despite the high price tag on this undeniably stylish item, the music here is just a bit too 'restaurant'. Yes, we know that's the concept, but it's supposed to work in your front room too. It's also a bit too twee and world for UK tastes. Buddha Bar can keep soundtracking dinner parties for the 21st century international jet set – we'll keep looking for something a bit more real. . . (CC)

★★★★★

### VARIOUS ARTISTS

#### Stoned Asia Edition 4 (Stoned Asia Music)

... Like this, for instance. DJ Pathaan puts together a selection of Asian-flavoured grooves from relatively traditional stuff like Bally Sagoo to cutting edge Euro interpretations from Bliss, Kumba Mela Experiment (aka Youth) and Pathaan's own Orchestral World Groove project. The album flows nicely and doesn't try too hard to be 'authentic'. Simply good quality, contemporary, chilled music. (CC)

★★★★★

### FRANKIE VALENTINE

#### Below The Radar (Sunshine Enterprises)

A great album from someone who has been quietly putting out a steady stream of excellent, Latin-tinged percussive house tracks for the past 10 years. 'Below The Radar' ranges stylistically from the mellow, Afro groove of 'Past And Present' to the housey 'MoogRock' and even takes in some Cafe Del Mar-style ambience on 'Below The Radar'. Cool. (PM)

★★★★★

Basement Jaxx used to do their parties. I started off playing 'Asian beats', but my sound has now become more global."

WHAT MAKES YOUR NEW COMPILATION STAND OUT FROM ALL THE OTHER CHILL OUT OFFERINGS? "You would find it quite hard to find the tracks on each edition anywhere else, unless you hunt for the music like I do."

Stoned Asia Music is not necessarily 'chill out'. To me it's about being able to 'dance to a different drum'."

YOUR MESSAGE TO THE WORLD? "Music is food for the soul, no matter what genre it is. It's all about taste."

'Stoned Asia Edition 4' is out on April 1st on Stoned Asia Music



## REVIEWS BY TOM MUGRIDGE AND DUNCAN BELL

Keen pugilist Tom and recent convert to Rastafarianism Duncan are playa-haters and proud. As well as running top made-up nightspot Schüüm, they've recently started not doing 'synthcore' remixes. Duncan's fave film is *Dude, Where's My Car?* though he hasn't strictly speaking seen it. Tom's is *La Grande Bouffe*, but then it would be, wouldn't it?



## SUSUMU YOKOTA & ROTHKO

### Water's Edge EP (Lo)

After his exceptional 'Sakura' LP on Leaf a while back, Yokota's stock has fallen sharply with an endless stream of sub-standard deep house records. So it's good to hear him back at his best on four tracks of elegant, rippling ambience, with chiming guitar flourishes added by the similarly over-productive Rothko. A minor triumph.

★★★★★

## VARIOUS ARTISTS

### Disco (Not Disco) 2 (Strut)

It's odd that a collection of tunes made over 20 years ago still sounds contemporary; even odder that Eddy Grant was making tunes in 1977 that sound like Fischerspooner today. But that's testament to Strut's skill as compilers, and to the fact that dance music hasn't really moved on that much in two decades. 'White Horse' (whatever could that be about?) by Laidback could be a 2002 Gigolo release, while Lex's '14 Days' is Daniel Wang.

★★★★★

## DAT POLITICS

### Plugs Plus (Chicks On Speed)

If everything on this French quartet's album was as good as 'Tout Bleu' – a fantastically skewed electro-pop song with distorted gabba kicks, nonsense lyrics and nursery rhyme tunes for acid-fried Atari-freaks – this would have been Vital Release for sure.

Unfortunately – apart from Matmos' Drew Daniel posing as a depraved lecturer on 'Pass Our Class' – there are just a few too many in-jokes and too much laptop noodling for this to really cut the *moutarde*. Good, though.

★★★★★

## ELECTRONICAT

### Birds Want To Have Fun (Angelika Köhlermann)

Felix Da Housecat, Miss Kittin... what's with all these feline monikers?

Whatever, while Electronicat may share a bit of electro-punk attitude and art-school narcissism with everyone's favourite 'synthcore' artists, this pussy is more likely to leave rats' entrails and shitty pawprints on your nice clean carpet than sup suggestively at a saucer of cream. Like *Sigue Sigue Sputnik* meeting *Suicide* with just a set of steak knives for company.

★★★★★

## HERMANN & KLEINE

### Our Noise (Morr Music)

While their peers are content to make pretty robo-pop or stuff that Sounds A Bit Like Autechre (SABLA) – Hermann & Kleine really do have a noise they can call their own. The LP's centrepiece – a cover of Seventies prog-rockers Slapp Happy's 'Blue Flower', complete with reticent vocals from Ariane Hemsel – is almost a tribute to My bloody Valentine, with guitars like a shower of sparks.

★★★★★

## NAUTILUS

### Are You An Axolotl (Planet Mu)

Another graduate from the SABLA Institute. But while this has all the insectoid jitter-beats and hot and cold running synths you expect from post-Autechre electronica, there's a new warmth to this album, an organic feel, derived from the use of the human voice, be it sampled, sung or rapped. Also, you have to be impressed by an album that's prepared to lurch from the pretty Autecro of 'Mend' to the demented hip hop of 'Polyphonix Tronix Spacegoat', which features the best use of the word "MOTHERFUCKER!" in recent times. The album loses its way towards the end, but that's electronica for you, guy. (DB)

★★★★★

## SAGE FRANCIS

### Personal Journals (Anticon) DRAGNASLIMDUBLIN & THE BEATCAVE HERMIT

There is No Easy Definition (Underground Sounds Of America) Two very wordy albums from the fringes of hip hop. On 'Personal Journals', "personal journalist, self-referentialist" Sage Francis serves up one lacerating couplet after another, by turns funny, sinister, painful and

nonsensical. Underground producers like Odd Nosdam, Mayonnaise and Jel back the sage Sage with samples over-amped till they crack, melancholy pianos and metal guitars. Result: a record that would be a true classic (not a word we use lightly) if it were 10 minutes shorter and the angst was reined in just a tad. Dragnaslimdublin & The Beatcave Hermit are static in the attic in comparison, but in any other month their funny/sad mix of cautionary tales, dope MCing and cabaret singing, violins and beats would be worthy of major attention. Lack of space is a bitch, right? (DB)

★★★★★ / ★★★★★

## JEL

### 10 Seconds FAT JON THE AMPLE SOUL PHYSICIAN Wave Motion (both Mush)

Two albums from the fringes of hip hop with no words (well, not many). Jel (who produces some of the best tracks on Sage Francis' album) writes a love letter to his sampler on '10 Seconds' – the title refers to the pathetically small sample capacity of the E-MU SP1200. Tracks like 'Dynamic Button' thump from beneath a coating of lo-fi grime, with drums as intricate as Shadow's best. But Fat Jon is even better. His instrumentals have a lovely warm, woozy, dreamlike quality, like when you've had just a few drinks with friends, and all is right with the world. You know – before it all descends into a chaotic, gin-sodden nightmare. (DB)

★★★★★ / ★★★★★

## SPUNK

### Filtered Through Friends (Rune Grammofon)

Spunk are four ladies from Norway who, when not doing 'proper' music with various European orchestras, make a noise pitched somewhere between The Slits' shambolic shoutiness and the kind of 'improv' made by Arts Council-funded Communists in the early Seventies. Here, their less unlistenable moments are drawn out by various luminaries of Norwegian electronica, including Jaga Jazzist's Martin Hornthveth, Phonophani and Svalastog, whose Pole-at-a-pagan-ritual contribution is a highlight. So Spunk doesn't leave a nasty taste in your mouth. (TM)

★★★★★

## VITAL RELEASE ★★★★★

### JAMES YORKSTON & THE ATHLETES

The Lang Toun (Domino)

Jonny Trunk's folk night in Islington and the release on DVD of *The Wicker Man* prove categorically that folk is back, and if this record is a fair example of Noughties folk, we say 'hey nonny! Bring it on!'. Musically little more than acoustic guitar and the haunting drone of uilleann pipes – the weirdest sound this side of a 303 you've just spilled tea on – this has a beauty and power that's beyond time and fashion. James' gorgeous, earthily sad vocals, reminiscent of a



young Shane MacGowan who's foresworn drinking Toilet Duck for a while, add a tale of simple melancholy – "I tell you I love you, but they're just useless words" – and we all swoon. Kieran Hebden's remix is so wrong, it's painful – but let's not dwell on that, eh? (DB)

★★★★★

## RECLOOSE

### Cardiology (Planet E)

Detroit's Matt Chicoine made one of last year's best singles. 'Can't Take It' (included here), and this album is every bit as ambitious. Employing beats that work when they really shouldn't, and doing things with vocals that most house producers couldn't imagine, let alone pull off, he comes over like Matthew Herbert meeting Prince in Gilles Peterson's *Jazz Elevator*. (TM)

★★★★★

## SONIC YOUTH PRESENTS

### All Tomorrow's Parties 1.1 (ATP)

Indie music: shit, isn't it? Luckily the closest this comp (which ties in with the LA version of the ATP festival) comes to the Camden 'n' cardigans set is a track by Stephen Malkmus, formerly of Pavement, and he's American, so that's okay. Elsewhere

there's fine post-rock miserablism from Unwound and Papa M, post-mortem rock from New Zealand's Dead C, percussive psyche-out from Japan's Boredoms and a cool instrumental from Da Yoof themselves. Rather good, actually.

★★★★★

## FAUST

### Freispiel (Klangbad)

Remix projects involving 'legendary' sonic pioneers often seem doomed to be an unsatisfying halfway house between the original music and the remixers' own styles. There are some good tracks here – Dave Ball and Ingo Vauk rattle along in fine Krautrock fashion; Funkstörung do their cut-up hip hop thing, and Matthias Schaffhauser's Modernist-style tech-house is more than satisfactory. But if you really want to hear Faust, go and buy a Faust record.

★★★★★

## STATE OF THE ARTIST YOKO ONO

The artistic pioneer and living legend 'opens her box' for the Leftfield page



WERE YOU ANNOYED THAT YOUR TUNE 'OPEN YOUR BOX' WAS REMIXED WITHOUT PERMISSION?

"No, because when I did 'Plastic Ono Band' in 1969 or '70, I put it down as 'unfinished music'. People said 'why did you put that?' and I say it's music for people to put their things on, you know? And now it's happening, ha ha! Isn't that amazing?"

DO YOU LIKE HOUSE MUSIC?

"It sounds like something I did in

1969 or something! It's so amazing! I'm shocked, I'm very happy, I don't know what's going on!"

HOW DID YOU ARRIVE AT YOUR DISTINCTIVE VOCAL STYLE?

"It's like a potion of energy. It's a positive thing, although some people feel it's right on your face. A lot of people didn't like it because I was a woman singing like "AAAAOOW!" Instead of [breathily] "Je t'alme, je t'alme", you know?"

YOU ONCE GOT IN A BAG FOR WORLD PEACE. WHAT WAS THE THINKING BEHIND THAT?

"I was doing that to bring attention to it, but also for a laugh, really. If it was a guy in Trafalgar Square in a bag, you know – they laugh! But if a woman does it, they say 'there must be something wrong with the girl!'"

'Open Your Box' (Orange Factory Remix) is out now on Mindtrain

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# first for singles



## **CRW FEAT. VERONIKA - LIKE A CAT**

Famous for I Feel Love and their remix of York's On The Beach, CRW return with this unique trancer featuring vocals from Veronika. Available on 2x12" and CD including the monster Tillmann Uhrmacher remix alongside the original and dub mixes. Support from Judge Jules, Dave Pearce, and Tall Paul.

**RELEASED 15.04.02**



## **THE STREETS - LETS PUSH THINGS FORWARD**

Lifted from the massively acclaimed Original Pirate Material LP, this is the latest cut from The Streets. Once again featuring the lyrical genius of Mike Skinner, the single is available on 2xCD and 12" with remixes from Studio Gangsters, Zed Bias and Mystery.

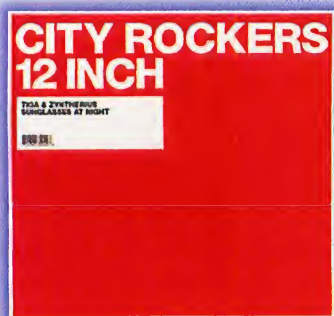
**RELEASED 15.04.02**



## **KRISTINE BLOND - YOU MAKE ME GO OOOH**

Already being championed by the likes of Dreem Teem and DJ Luck & MC Neat, Kristine Blond rolls out this peak time UK garage tune. Available on 2xCD and 12" featuring remixes from the mighty DND, Dub-a-holics and Stella Browne.

**RELEASED 22.04.02**



## **TIGA & ZYNTHERIUS - SUNGLASSES AT NIGHT**

Licensed from DJ Hell's International DeeJay Gigolos label, this is the storming new single from TIGA & Zyntherius. Already riding high in the club charts, the track is available on CD and 12" featuring a previously unreleased TIGA remix and bonus track, Sweet Sedation, on the CD.

**RELEASED 22.04.02**

**buy now: [www.hmv.co.uk](http://www.hmv.co.uk) or 08705 334578**

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**HMV**

# The MUZIK Chart

THE ULTIMATE ESSENTIAL VINYL GUIDE FOR MAY



## ROMANTHONY NEVER FUCK (VIRGIN)

**W**e've always been fond of a little sauce here at Muzik Towers. And Romanthony – indulging his Prince fixation with his new Nightvision outfit – pushes filth to a whole new level on his latest single. Available as a limited, triple vinyl-only release, Futureshock, Paul

Van Dyk and Roman himself all do their best to push the funk and the filth in equal measures. "It's never going to get any radio play," said a not unduly pessimistic spokesperson for Virgin, but this isn't just one of those 'ooh – naughty words' records that are satisfying for about a minute. It's one of the records of the year, and Tong and Tenaglia are already all over it like latex body paint. Released on April 29th, with a Nightvision concept album to follow later in the year.

2



### MISSY ELLIOTT

**For My People** (Basement Jaxx Remix) (Elektra)  
Still smashing it at dancefloors from Macclesfield to Miami, this is the best Jaxx collaboration since Slarta John toasted 'Jump 'N' Shout' into delirium.

3



### LAYO AND BUSHWACKA!

**Let The Good Times/Shining Through** (XL)  
New label, new danger: The End boys unleash another double-headed tech-house monster that's a fantastic taster for their new album.

4



### 16TH ELEMENT

**Warp/Well Strung** (Loaded/Subliminal)  
Following that Whiplash deal with Morillo last month, this is the second track to be signed simultaneously to Loaded and Subliminal. X-Press 2 are on the mix.

5



### K-KLASS

**Baby Wants To Ride** (Junior)  
The Grammy-nominated Northerners return to their early house roots on this acidic two-tracker. Let them show you love!

6



### THE CHEMICAL BROTHERS

**Come With Us** (Virgin)  
The fans' favourite! Tom and Ed get the Norman Cook treatment along with new track 'H.I.A.'. Another must-buy package.

7



### MOONCAT FEATURING MARY

**Strong** (Superchumbo Mixes) (Low Pressings)  
Tom Stephan gets his obligatory shout out this month for his dark, brooding rework of the new single from Nottingham duo Anton Fielding and Chris Scott.

8



### DECKWREKA

**Vibekiller** (Ronin)  
Like a demolition derby in an underground car park set to music, this is UK hip hop at its absolute best, with a mental vocal from MC Scare Electric.

9



### TIGA & ZYNTHERIUS

**Sunglasses At Night** (City Rockers)  
The only other record to make it from last month's chart. 'Sunglasses' now comes complete with a new mix from Tiga himself. Another essential purchase.

10



### JOSH WINK

**Freak** (Ovum)  
Crisp techno with electro flavas from the Philadelphian deep houser. Already massive with the house and techno contingents.

11



### INLAND KNIGHTS

**Beat Loaf** (Drop Music)  
A-side 'U Too' is a thumping tech-houser with great choppy vocals that's impossible to argue with. It doesn't sound anything like Bono's crew, fortunately.

12



### PESHAY WITH CO-ORDINATE

**You Got Me Burning** (Cubik)  
Grooverider dropped this furious dubplate at The Dome on New Year's Eve to devastating effect. Now it's set to launch a summer of drum & bass mayhem!

13



### TIEFSCHWARZ

**Hello Again** (Classic)  
A-side 'Acid Soul' is just that, on this dirty house slate from the fast-rising German brothers. The B-side is worth a little stylus action too.

14



### ANGIE STONE

**Wish I Didn't Miss You** (J)  
A superb remix from The Pound Boys makes this the best vocal garage cut this month. On the flip, Spen & Karisma give 'Brother' the full gospel treatment. Large.

15



### JAMIE ANDERSON

**Rebel Sound** (NRK)  
The Beloved and DJ Jenö re-tweak this minimal, psychedelic houser, along with a new mix from Anderson himself. A doublepack to die for!

To get the weekly updated **MUZIK** Chart faxed to your record shop for display, fax us your address

**FAX: 020-7261-7100**

# TOP OF THE COX

Carl Cox writes exclusively for Muzik Magazine. No other publication comes close!



1

## PETER PRESTA

### The New Style (Boo)

"He's a New Yorker who's very prolific. I'm playing the 'San Francisco Express Mix', which samples The Beastie Boys. As soon as the crowd hear this record they go mad!"

2

## ARTIST UNKNOWN

### Number 7 (User)

"User's best so far - I'm playing six out of the eight tracks out. Every one is spot on Latino tech-house from another planet. I got this in Satellite in New York."

3

## D'JULZ

### Acid Trax (Ovum)

"I bumped into Josh Wink who gave me a white label - one of only three! It's got the bassline from hell. It's really housey but borders on techno. I played it in Philly and the crowd went mental."

4

## SVEN VATH

### Mind Games (Virgin)

"Again, not commercial, but really simple and really cool. This record brings everyone together - it's been a big Coxy tune everywhere I go."

5

## KINGS OF PUNANI

### Fantasy Girl (KOP)

"This is Christian Smith and Angel Alanis. They've taken extracts from DJ Pierre's 'Fantasy Girl' - a massive acid house track - and ripped it into tech-house. Whether they get any punani or not is another matter!"

6

## DW AND HD SUBSTANCE

### Pump That (white label)

"This is from Madrid, by two names to look out for. This crosses progressive house with techno but they've added a beautiful string arrangement at the end of the track."

7

## OXIA

### Finally EP (Intec)

"Oxia is from Grenoble and he used to be in Funky Data. The whole EP is strong but 'Troisieme' is the best - very Funk D'Void. Could it be the new 'Diabla'?"

8

## JOEY BELTRAM

### Push (STX003)

"It's a huge house record with a massive drop and stabby synths - a complete slammer. He's pushing the envelope of house. Fair play for that!"

9

## FRANKIE BONES

### Ghetto Technics (white label)

"He's been doing a lot on the underground - one track is called 'The Express' and the other is 'On And On'. Straight-up ghetto techno, New York style, that's equal to anything on Subliminal."

10

## SCANNERS

### Prayer (Limbo)

"I got given this in San Francisco - the B-side is a D:Fuse remix - a really cool mix with a really deep, funky b-line. The A-side is amazing, the original is great!"

Carl Cox's 'Global' mix compilation is out now on WEA

# DJ CHARTS

The world's top DJs list the slates they're caning

## PLUMP DJS LONDON UK

### Phat Fingerlickin' duo on course for global domination

- 1 Meat Katie Next Life/My Little Dancing Girl (Kingsize)
- 2 Soul Of Man Dirty Waitzer (Finger Lickin')
- 3 Precision Cuts Busted (Stratosphere)
- 4 Plump DJs TB Reality (Finger Lickin')
- 5 Dark Globe Globocop (W9Y)
- 6 DJ Zinc Trainer Track (Runnin')
- 7 Krafty Kuts Don't Stop (Against The Grain)
- 8 Azzido Da Bass Speed (white label)
- 9 Future Funk Squad Direct (white label)
- 10 Stereo 8 Get Above Yourself (white label)



Peshay: Has hair like Julius Caesar

## PESHAY LONDON UK

### The brightest drum & basser on the block

- 1 Pearlonyx Take It Easy (white label)
- 2 Peshay & Coordinate U Got Me Burning (Cubik)
- 3 Roni Size Sound Advice (Full Cycle)
- 4 Influx Datum Back 4 More (white label)
- 5 Tommy Knockers Brazil Is Back (white label)
- 6 EZ Rollers untitled (white label)
- 7 Accidental Heroes Even When It Rains (Infrared)
- 8 Mace Satisfy My Soul (white label)
- 9 DJ Die Hypnotise (Full Cycle)
- 10 Peshay Disco Sound (Cubik)

## NICK WARREN BRISTOL UK

### Progressive heaven from Way Out West geezer

- 1 Chris Fortier Losing Wait (white label)
- 2 Luis Diaz Mental Abyss (white label)
- 3 Graham & Porter 2 Days On Landsdowne (white label)
- 4 The Four Elements Fire (Kismet)
- 5 Sunscream Perfect Motion (WOW Remix) (Bonzai)
- 6 Way Out West Stealth (Remixes) (Distinctive)
- 7 Slacker Looky Thing (white label)
- 8 Solid Sessions Janeiro (James Holden Mix) (white label)
- 9 Cosmos Versus Leftfield Take Me With Life (white label)
- 10 Flash Chilling Moments (Bedrock)

## SILICONE SOUL GLASGOW UK

### Deep-fried Scots house? Right on, right on!

- 1 Roger Sanchez Nothing To Prove (Silicone Soul's Darkroom Dub) (Defected)
- 2 Marcello Castelli title unknown (white label)
- 3 16b The Game (Marcello Castelli Remixes) (Hooj)
- 4 Puddu Varano Blue Sky, White Sand (Murena)
- 5 Defenders Of The Faith The Fallen (Grayhound)
- 6 Valentino Kanzyani Leliwa (Earrisistible)
- 7 Nectar Big World (Grayhound)
- 8 Jay-J & Chris Lum Freaks Like Us (white label)
- 9 Chicken Lips He's Not In (Kingsize)
- 10 Organic Audio Good To Go (Tummy Touch)

## TONY THOMAS NOTTINGHAM UK

### The hottest new tech-house producer on the block

- 1 Studziel Damiao da Silva The Brazilian (Venus Works)
- 2 Noel Nanton El Ray (Honchos Music)
- 3 Steve Mac & Yousef The Drumburns EP (Dis\_Funktional)
- 4 B-Faktor Make Me Cry (You)
- 5 H-Foundation Passage Of Time (Soma)
- 6 Get Up! & Nae Tago title unknown (white label)
- 7 Ssssssh Fonky Shit JP (United White)
- 8 Niquid Background EP (Fluential)
- 9 Chris Lum Bigger Tool (Tango)
- 10 Dizzy The Sactown Soul EP (Electric Soul)

## ANDY FARLEY BIRMINGHAM UK

### Brain-bashing euphoria from the Frantic/Storm resident

- 1 BK title unknown (white label)
- 2 Darc Marc Break Force (Cluster)
- 3 Christiaan Free Your Mind (white label)
- 4 Paul Glazby Beautiful (Paul Janes Mix) (Vicious Circle)
- 5 Jon Bishop Stalker (white label)
- 6 Paul Glazby Get Down/Hardcore (Mother)
- 7 Paul Glazby You Won't Last (white label)
- 8 Captain & Karim I Got Ya (Tin Rib)
- 9 Space Brothers Follow Me (Mr Bishi) (Tripoli Trax)
- 10 Katana Gemini Silver (Premium)

## PAUL JACKSON LONDON UK

### No troubles at all for the other Problem Kid

- 1 artist unknown Reckless Woman (white label)
- 2 Aly-Us Follow Me (white label)
- 3 Paul Jackson Bulldozer (Fluential)
- 4 Liquid People Monster/Kidstuff Take The Helm Mix (Defected)
- 5 Whiplash Ghetto Tears (Loaded)
- 6 John 'Julius' Knight Dancin' In Paradise (Soulfulic Trax)
- 7 Shakedown At Night (Mousse T's Feel Good Mix) (Naive)
- 8 X-Press 2 Lazy (Problem Kid Lazy Daze Dub) (white label)
- 9 Kidstuff Alright (Matthew Roberts Remix) (Fluential)
- 10 Clubb Patrol Hey, Hey (Subliminal)

## AMATO SERIOUSLY UPFRONT TEST PRESSING CHART

- 1 Richard F Feels Alright (Subliminal)
- 2 Romananthony Never Fuck (Futureshock Remix) (Virgin)
- 3 Minimal Funk My Definition (Junior)
- 4 Simon Noble Versus Blackwatch Critically Positive (Pitchblack)
- 5 Cosmos Take Me With You (white label)
- 6 Topazz Millennium (Wally Lopez And Dr Kucho Remix) (Portent Plus)
- 7 Shakedown At Night (Kid Creme Remix) (Defected)
- 8 Trendroid Trendication (Twisted)
- 9 Evolution Walking On Fire (Bedrock)
- 10 Abtranig Submission (Sondos)

Compiled by Tommy Scott at Amato Distribution

# PRINCESS JULIA'S HOME LISTENING CHART

Early morning aural entertainment from DJ Princess Julia, the Queen of Crash



## 1 JAPANESE TELECOM CIGARETTE LIGHTER (INTERNATIONAL DEEJAY GIGOLOS)

Obscure nu-electronica. Really trendy and very quirky.

## 2 BJORK FROST (ONE LITTLE INDIAN)

Twinkly – and atmospheric of course!

## 3 MARIANNE FAITHFULL FILE IT UNDER FUN FOR THE PAST (IT)

Cynical flashback, love?

## 4 HUMAN LEAGUE NERVOUS (PAPILLON)

Instrumental, scenic track from Sheffield's finest.

## 5 DECOY FOLLOW YOU (SOUL OF LONDON)

A beautiful vocal track from a talented crew on the threshold of big things.

## 6 STEREO LAB BLACK ANTS IN SOUND DUST (DUOPHONIC)

An introduction to the world of wifty woftyness.

## 7 GARBAGE SO LIKE A ROSE (MUSHROOM)

A haunting rock ballad.

## 8 DAVID BOWIE LIFE ON MARS (RCA)

He knew, the old trout!

## 9 BOY GEORGE I'M ART (FROM TABOO)

A track from the Taboo musical which I wish I could play at home. Brilliant!

## 10 DIONNE WARWICK WINDOWS OF THE WORLD (WEA)

Usually, when I sing along to this it makes me cry. An amazing song.

'Crash: The Original Underground Sound Of London' is out on April 15th on Southeast Recordings

## SHOP CHARTS



### FLYING RECORDS LONDON

- 1 **Yukihiko Fukutomi** Love Each Other (King Street)
- 2 **Automagic** The One That Got Away (Chillifunk)
- 3 **Jaguar Wright** Denials, Delusions & Decisions (MCA)
- 4 **Focus** Sweet & Sour (Versatile)
- 5 **Dom V** Save It (2000 Black)
- 6 **M.O.D.E. Featuring Leroy Burgess** Heaven (Frankie Valentine Remix) (white label)
- 7 **Everyday People** Summer Down (Papa Records)
- 8 **Next Evidence** Dance On (EMI France)
- 9 **4 Hero** Hold It Down (Bugz In The Attic Mix) (Talkin Loud)
- 10 **Blaze** How Deep Is Your Love (Shelter)

**Andrew Baker, chart compiler:** "How Deep Is Your Love' by Blaze is doing really well. The Bugz In The Attic Mix of 4Hero's 'Hold It Down' is also flying – it's an awesome vocal anthem."

Flying Records, 94 Dean Street, London W1V 5RB. Tel: 0207-734-0172



### PURE GROOVE LONDON

- 1 **Sticky Feat Tubby T** Tales From Da Hood (Social Circles)
- 2 **Southside Allstars** Angel (Locked On)
- 3 **DJ EZ** The Next Chapter EP (Z Recordings)
- 4 **Beat Freaks** Speakerbox Remix (Undercover Artists)
- 5 **Sunship** Shake Your Body (Sunship Remix) (Positiva)
- 6 **Pulse X** Musical Mob (Inspiration)
- 7 **DJ Narrows** Cumcakes (Remix) (Honey Bee)
- 8 **Fyrus (Sticky)** Mission Five (Social Circles)
- 9 **Entertainment And Mo Entertainment** Featuring Mos Camp Absolutely Heavy (Moist)
- 10 **Morth** Raid (Infiltration)

**DJ Shorty, chart compiler:** "Tales From The Hood' is a massive word-of-mouth record because people can't get Sticky's 'Stush'. We only had ten copies and they sold out in ten minutes."

Pure Groove, 670 Holloway Road, London N19 5SE. Tel: 0207-281-4877



### TUNE INN SELBY

- 1 **Altitude** Altitude (Shokk Remix) (Bonzai UK)
- 2 **Tranzy** State Of Mind (Inferno)
- 3 **Hardy Heller Versus Inkfish** Feelings (Tune Inn)
- 4 **Marc Dawn** Expander (Logport)
- 5 **Marc et Claude** Tremble (Riva Remix) (Positiva)
- 6 **Dub Disorder** Tensile (Tune Inn)
- 7 **Mara** Coming Down (Medway Mix) (Choo Choo)
- 8 **The Traveller & In Motion** Believe (Minimalistix Remix) (Five AM)
- 9 **Kosheen** Hungry (Satoshi Tomiie Remixes) (BMG)
- 10 **Ortz** We Don't Talk (Additive)


**Dean Chadwick, shop manager:** "Hard, uplifting trance is back. And keep your eyes out for people like Satoshi – this is tough, dark-edged house rather than deep and boring prog. Music you can dance to!"

Tune Inn, 2 Wren Lane, Selby, N Yorks YO8 4PH. Tel: 01757-212-593

## THE BIG TEN FOR MAY

The most expensive dance classics sold in the UK this month at Vinyl Exchange, Manchester. [www.vinylexchange.co.uk](http://www.vinylexchange.co.uk)

1



**£60 CE CE ROGERS**  
**'Someday'** (Atlantic 12-inch) £60  
 The original US import of this all-time house music anthem was a huge

Hacienda classic back in the day, and a fave of New Order's Bernard Sumner, to boot. It's still seriously sought-after today – hence the hefty entry fee.

2



**£45 THE PEDDLERS**  
**Suite London** (Phillips)  
 Including The Creators' beat classic 'Under London Lights' and the original version of the Zero 7 single 'I Have Seen'. An album of essential original breakbeat material from 1972.

3



**£40 GIORGIO MORODER**  
**Son Of My Father** (Dunhill)  
 Featuring the classic beats of 'Tears', as sampled by DJ Shadow on 'Organ Donor' and included on the Cut Chemist/DJ Shadow funk mix 'Brainfreeze'. This LP is a must!

4



**£40 LEFTFIELD**  
**Leftism** (Hard Hands)  
 Rare triple vinyl version of the classic debut LP which includes the track 'Cut For Life', which wasn't on the double vinyl version. In light of their recent split, the price is sure to escalate further.

5



**£24 FUNKADELIC**  
**Free Your Mind... And Your Ass Will Follow**  
 (Pye International)  
 Original UK release of the classic psych-funk LP. The roots of modern dance start right here.

6



**£20 HARRY THUMANN**  
**Underwater** (Decca)  
 The original UK 12-inch of this amazing instrumental disco track that's also a big Electric Chair anthem. Made back in 1979, for those of you with a curiosity for dates.

7



**£14 808 STATE**  
**Quadrastate** (Creed)  
 Swiftly snapped up by ZTT on the strength of this album, this classic Manchester techno mini-LP includes the original and best version of 'Pacific State' and the relentless 'State Ritual'.

8



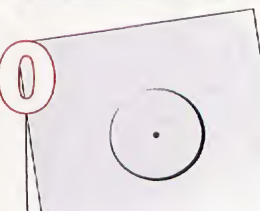
**£12 CJ BOLLAND**  
**Sugar Is Sweeter** (Internal)  
 Bolland's Prodigy homage was massive at speed garage clubs like Cookies & Cream in the late Nineties thanks to Armand Van Helden's genre-defining 'Drum & Bass' remix.

9



**£12 BOARDS OF CANADA**  
**Alpha & Omega** (Warp)  
 This rare promo-only 12-inch was given away at a secret Boards gig. Limited to 4,000 copies only, the remainder were sold on the Warp web site and were gone a few hours later.

10



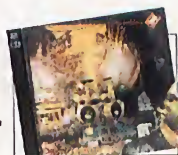
**£7 INNER CITY**  
**Praise** (Ten)  
 Rare remix 12-inch featuring Carl Craig and Derrick May mixes of Kevin Saunderson's classic. Both turn in lush tech-house jobs sure to cause Detroitophiles to come like Niagara Falls.



### BURIED TREASURE

**RENNIE PILGREM CHOOSES PRINCE**

'SIGN O' THE TIMES' (WEA, 1987)



"In a previous life I worked in advertising and design. We used to do stuff for Warner Brothers and I managed to get hold of this when it first came out. It says 'File Copy Do Not Remove' on my copy. It's the lead cut on the best album of the Eighties by a mile. Prince was popular then,

but also really cutting edge – the musical Holy Grail. The one big criticism levelled at dance music when house kicked off was that the lyrics were all shit, whereas the one thing that Prince lyrics weren't was shit – they were always wicked. The opposite of a party tune, essentially."



## GUIDE TO LAURENT GARNIER

The frog prince of techno's rare and tasty slices

**A**s famous for his marathon DJ sets as he is for his production work, France's Laurent Garnier is one of the world's top DJs, learning his trade at Manchester's infamous Hacienda and his own legendary Wake Up! club in Paris in the late Eighties and early Nineties.

For his studio work, Laurent initially collaborated with Mixmaster Moody as French Connection in 1990 for his first release, 'Who Cares' (Eastern Bloc), before joining Eric Morand's FNAC imprint in 1991. This resulted in the 'French Connection' mini LP. The standout track, 'Join Hands', sampled Ce Ce Rogers' 'Someday' and was remixed and released under Laurent's own name. The following year he also gave us the 'Stronger By Design EP' which heralded more of a tech-trance sound than before.

The artists Laurent Garnier has remixed over the years have usually been from the techno fraternity: Sven Vath, Moby and The Reese Project, for

example. Up and coming for what felt like donkey's years, his reputation was finally sealed in 1997 with the suitably cooking 'Crispy Bacon' and a slightly more experimental second LP '30'.

In 1998 the Chicago-flavoured 'Coloured City' 12-inch was followed by 'Club Traxx Volume 2'. The only release in 1999 came in the shape of 'The Sound of The Big Babou' 12-inch. Early 2000 was time for the release of Laurent's third LP 'Unreasonable Behaviour' with the vinyl containing different tracks & mixes from the CD – hence 'U.R.'. There were also a few exclusive promo-only samplers, as well as the classic 'The Man With The Red Face' and 'Greed' singles.

Garnier's renownedly smooth turntable skills have been captured to perfection on 'X-Mix-2' (IK7, 1995), 'Laboratoire Mix' (React, 1996) and 'Mixmag Live' (Mixmag, 1996) – all essential purchases with the first two also being available as sought after vinyl sets. You know you're worth it...

new records and ask questions without being patronised by some twat who can't get a proper job?

Imagine no longer. The internet is not just a source of cheap and plentiful porn, it's awash with records too. You may have checked out the on-line operations of HMV ([www.hmv.co.uk](http://www.hmv.co.uk)),

Amazon ([www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk)) and Jungle ([www.jungle.com](http://www.jungle.com)). Sites like these are fine for buying mass market CDs but, really, for records that just ain't where it's at. Far, far better are the likes of Juno ([www.juno.co.uk](http://www.juno.co.uk)), 3 Beat ([www.3beatrecords.co.uk](http://www.3beatrecords.co.uk)), Tunes ([www.tunes.co.uk](http://www.tunes.co.uk)) and Satellite

Records ([www.satelliterecords.com](http://www.satelliterecords.com)) – vinyl specialists who really know their dance music and have exactly what you're after at decent prices. Usually. We'll be taking an in-depth look at sites like these over the coming months, evaluating the quality of the service they provide. Watch this space.

1



**£15 LAURENT GARNIER**  
**Stronger By Design EP**

(FNAC 12-inch, 1993)  
His first proper EP for FNAC with 'Virtual Breakdown' being the standout track.

2



**£20 LAURENT GARNIER**  
**Planet House EP** (FNAC 2x12-inch, 1993)

Blue vinyl double-pack that's decidedly Detroit-y around the edges. Check out 'Planet Sex'!

3



**£25 CHOICE**  
**Paris EP** (FNAC 12-inch, 1993)

Includes 'Acid Elfel' – 14 minutes of classic tech-trance heaven. His finest moment.

4



**£20 LAURENT GARNIER**  
**A Bout De Souffle EP** (FNAC 12-inch, 1993)

Another essential purchase, featuring the mighty 'Breathless' and 'Wake Up'.

5



**£15 VERNON**  
**Vernon's Wonderland** (Eye Q 12-inch, 1993)

Laurent supplies a 'Wake Up' remix of the all time classic German trance track.

6



**£15 SYSTEM 7**  
**Sirenes** (Big Life 12-inch, 1994)

Co-produced and written with poor man's Alex Paterson, Steve Hillage, this includes his own remix, as well as one by Carl Craig.

7



**£15 LAURENT GARNIER**  
**Club Traxx EP** (F Communications 2x12-inch, 1995)

LG rocks the house with this double-pack of deep funky techno.

8



**£25 LAURENT GARNIER**  
**Crispy Bacon Remix** (F Communications 12-inch, 1996)

Jeff Mills' 'Solid Sleep' mix of 'Crispy Bacon' is rarer than, well, a joke by Jeff Mills.

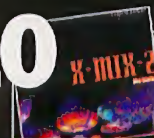
9



**£20 LAURENT GARNIER**  
**Early Works** (Arcade 2xLP, 1998)

This collection of early LG production remixes from 1991-'94 is also available on CD and comes highly recommended by Muzik.

10



**£30 LAURENT GARNIER**  
**X-Mix-2: The Tracks** (IK7 3xLP, 1995)

Limited triple-pack containing 13 classic techno tracks. Also available as a single CD, with all the tracks mixed by Laurent's own fair hand.

### NET AGAIN

**E**ver imagine a record store where just about every record ever made is available to buy – from rare, second hand vinyl to this week's most vindaloo-hot releases? A store where you can hear samples of

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**OUT  
NOW!**

# The DJ Manual

TIPS, TOOLS AND GEAR TO MAKE YOU A SUPERSTAR DJ



## ADAM McGRATH 'LIQUID DRUM & BASS MIX'

"I entered a four-deck breakbeat mix with a mate in 1997 but this is the first time I've entered Bedroom Bedlam since," says 23 year-old Adam McGrath. "I wanted to mix crisp breaks with a lot of the beautiful melodies you get on drum & bass tracks."

Adam's selection of liquid funk rollers kicks off with High Contrast – the Peshay of 2002, we reckon (despite looking about 12 years old) – and slides in a Sunshine Anderson sample for all the soul headz in the house.

Then, from an unreleased mix of Morcheeba to the MIST mixes of 4 Hero and Uncut, Adam favours chopped-up vocal samples all the way. There's even a sense of humour at play here – how many other jocks would sneak a Christina Aguilera sample inside an Optical mix of 'Spaced Invader'?

"I put the whole thing together in a couple of hours," says Adam. "I'm a fast worker. I mix so much that I'm pretty familiar with most things." There's a tiny gasp. "The scene's just so good at the moment!"



## WHO IS... ADAM McGRATH

**Contact:** 07990-582-522.

**Personal Details:** 23 years old, from Berkshire. Works as a tree surgeon, perhaps in 'the jungle'. Or maybe not. **Favourite DJs?** Fabio, High Contrast, Danny Byrd, DJ Addiction, Andy C, Hype and Marky.

**Favourite producers:** High Contrast, Danny Byrd, London Electricity, Carlito, Fellowship, DJ Zinc.

**Favourite labels:** Moving Shadow, Tru Playaz, Hospital, Defunkt, Intercom.

## LIQUID DRUM & BASS

**High Contrast** So Confused (Hospital) with **Sunshine Anderson** Heard It All Before (Acappella) (Atlantic)  
**Morcheeba** World Looking In (Remix) (white label)  
**Razor** Resistance (Defunkt)  
**4 Hero** 9X9 (MIST Mix) (Talkin' Loud/Reinforced)  
**Fellowship** We Can Make It (Defunkt)  
**Uncut** Midnight (MIST Mix) (Wired)  
**Carlito & Addiction** A Better Day (Defunkt)  
**High Contrast** Return Of Forever (Hospital)  
**Danny Byrd** Expanded (Remix) (Sound In Motion)  
**High Contrast** Make It Tonight (Hospital)  
**Fellowship** It's A Mystery (Defunkt)  
**60Minuteman** Can You Feel Me (Intercom)  
**Hatiras** Spaced Invader (Optical Remix) (Canvas) with **Christina Aguilera** Genie In A Bottle (Acappella) (RCA)  
**Fabulous Baker Boys** Oh Boy (Aphrodite Funky-Assed Mix) (Multiply)

**Favourite clubs?** Fabric Live, Blue Mountain (Bristol), Enzo's (Salisbury) and Herbal (Shoreditch, London).

## APRIL RUNNERS UP

### Paul S, Southampton 'Pure Rhythm Mix'

• "Where house meets techno and they get it together," says Paul S of his entry, which mixes up Mr G, Laurent Garnier



and Leftfield. Paul's favourite DJs are Carl Cox and Trevor Rockliffe.

### Laura Stone, London 'House Mix'

• Laura's US house selection is deep and soulful enough to please Dr Bob Jones (we expect). Big Moses, Kenny Blake, Dajae and



the Dirdiggers mix of 'Finally' make this proper Pacha warm-up bizniz.

### Mark Parody, Manchester 'One Take Mix'

• Opening with 'Hey Gringo' by Smart Alex, other smart entries here include Sir Drew, Powder Productions and 'Flylife Extra' by



Basement Jaxx. "It's very funky," says Mark, not unreasonably.

### Chuck Smith, London 'Eclectronica Mix'

• Nicodemus, Nitin Sawhney, Riton, Zero 7 and Cottonbelly jump into bed together to create a world music mix and a



very big wet patch. Chuck's full and manly head of hair is impressive, too.

## HOW TO... ENTER

- Your tape/disc should be at least 74 minutes long.
- Include a full tracklisting with artist, track title and label.
- Include your daytime telephone number and a photograph with your name written on the back.

- Send all tapes, minidiscs or CDs to Bedroom Bedlam, Muzik Magazine, Hatfield House, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. Muzik cannot return any BB tapes. If you hear nothing, keep trying – we try to listen to everything!

## WIN

- Be original.
- Develop your own sound.
- Don't just spin obvious anthems.
- Bear in mind that if you send in a prog mix, you'll be in direct competition with the other 7,000 prog mixes we get sent each month.

## BOOK A DJ

If you want a BB DJ for your gig, club or party, contact Paxton Talbot on:

Tel: +44 (0)20-8653-0663  
Fax: +44 (0)20-8653-0642  
E-mail: [info@lilyuk.com](mailto:info@lilyuk.com)

## MUZIK DJ NEWS

What are our winners up to?

**T**he cream of Bedroom Bedlam talent will join some of the biggest DJs and artists in the world at EXIT, Eastern Europe's biggest World Music Festival. The event will run for 10 days at a 30,000-capacity venue on The River Danube, in the former Yugoslavia, in July. **Simon Stuart, Murray Richardson, Margaret Dygas, Will Saul, Alison Marks, Paula, Jay Cuning, Nat Monday and Roberto Marroni** will line up against David Morales, Erick Morillo, Derrick Carter and Darren Emerson and a whole load more.

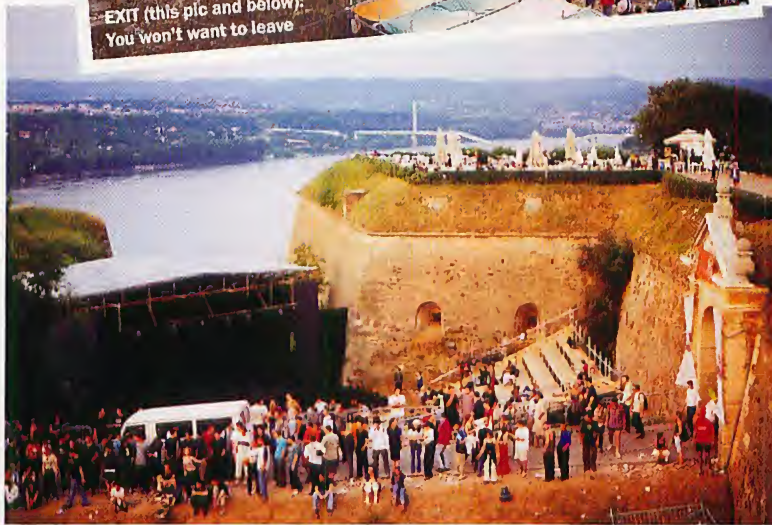
Launched last year as a celebration of Slobodan Milosevic's downfall, EXIT attracted 400,000 people to Petro Varadin's 17th century fortress, and this year they're expecting in the region of a million dance music fans. We'll keep you posted on the line up and travel/accommodation arrangements in future issues.

**Steve Gerrard** will be kicking off the West Coast leg of the Muzik World Tour with dates in LA, San Francisco and Seattle on June 24th-26th. Gavin Longworth, musical director of the renowned club Giant, reckons Steve is the perfect Bedroom Bedlam DJ to handle the west coast leg of the tour. "He has a massive following here," says Gavin, "we can't wait for the tour to arrive!" Steve will be accompanied by one other big DJ from the UK who we can't name at the

moment, but he's not that tall, he used to have longish hair and is partial to breaks. The tour then ducks off to sample some East Coast and Canadian delights at the end of June and beginning of July, before heading off to Yugoslavia for the EXIT Festival.

**Paula Temple** has received rave reviews for her latest production work from Jim Masters and a plethora of Space DJs. Paula will be

releasing her material on Existence Records next month. **Alison Marks'** latest release, 'Come To Be' (Duty Free) has also gone into its third run. Typically, she's still not over the moon with it - there's no pleasing some people! Finally, **Roberto Marroni** is in the studio with 100Hz and **Dr Rubberfunk** is preparing for yet another release on GPS. Test pressings are circulating as we speak.



## WHERE TO SEE BEDROOM BEDLAM DJs

### FIVE OF THE BEST

#### PROLOGUE @ THE CROSS

First Saturday of the month at The Cross, King's Cross, London. 0207-837-0828.

Ian Ossia, Lee Ford, Jo Shanks (BB) and Simon Stuart (BB) are joined by Paul Richards (Subliminal) and Chris Fortier.

#### MUZIK:RESPONSE @ AKA,

Wednesday, May 1st @ The End, West

Central Street. 0208-653-0664.

Bi-monthly residents

Margaret Dygas, Roberto Marroni, Will Saul and Dr

Rubberfunk host the freshest new midweek session in London. Bad Company, 100Hz and Jay Cuning drop by to supply this month's additional treats.

#### RAMSHACKLE @ THE ACADEMY

Every Friday at the Academy, Birmingham. 07977-446-362.

Funky mix of house, breaks, hip hop, urban and whatever you fancy, with host Steve Gerrard.

#### DIAL @ THE POOL BAR

Every second Thursday of the month

at The Pool Bar, 104 Curtain Road, Shoreditch. 020-8653-0664.

Fantastic breaks and beats session with Will Saul, co-founder Roundeye and special guests.

#### LOOSE @ RETOX BAR

Covent Garden Market Place.

020-8653-0664.

Thursday nights will never be the same again in Covent Garden, now that this gem of a night has taken off. Loose residents Nat Monday, Roberto Marroni and Nick Hook get down to some serious tech-house skullduggery, and you should get down there early - it's always rammed.

## BEST BRIBE

**M**ay's runaway winner in this department is Brighton-based Jamie Headclear, whose chocolate bribe sent the Muzik office into an unsavoury feeding frenzy. Stacking 15 Kit-Kats together and sticking a progressive mix on the top of the stack might not make Jamie an instant BB winner, but it got our attention and we did enjoy his brooding mix of Way Out West, Timo Maas and Tilt. But surely it should have been a breaks mix? Kit-Kat - take a break? Geddit? No? Sorry.





# JAMES ZABIELA (WE FEEL YA)

How is success and fame treating Southampton's favourite son?

“Where shall I start this month? Well, I had my first ever holiday abroad in sunny **Norway!** Erm, actually it wasn't very sunny at all – minus 15 degrees! Brrr! I still have the icicles hanging from my nose. I went snowboarding though, which was ace, but quite painful. I experienced what is commonly known as a ‘cheek spreader’. This is where one butt cheek lands on one part of the mountain and the other ends up somewhere completely different. It's not pleasant.

But enough about my holiday. When I got back, my month continued with a bit of a Norwegian theme. Wall Of Sound asked if I'd have a go at remixing the next **Royksopp** single ‘Remind Me’. Well, as Royksopp totally kick arse and that particular track is my

favourite one from the LP, I agreed. So my production partner Lee Mintram and I have just completed it – result!

Then, on my third day back I was doing my fortnightly radio show on internet radio station **Groovetech** (nominated for best radio station at last year's Muzik Awards), and we had so many hits, my producer (of sorts), Dan ‘the e-mail male model’ didn't know what to do. The Groovetech show is always a laugh, since I get to play whatever I want for three hours. It gives you a real chance to experiment, so check it out at [www.groovetech.com](http://www.groovetech.com).

My first gig after my hols was at **The Redbox** in Dublin, a brilliant venue. It's the only place I've played where the DJ booth is really high up but you can still get that connection with the crowd that you get from a smaller, more intimate venue. Also playing that particular night was a certain **John**

**Digweed** – who rocked the place for three and a half hours – and resident **Robbie Butler**.

The next day I spun at **Cream** in Liverpool alongside **Breeder** and **Steve Lawler** in the main room – two top crowds in a row! Next, just when I thought I was being spoilt, I played at the independent night **Silicone** at Soda in Derby, which was less than busy. That was a real shame as it's such a brilliant venue with a great sound system to boot. But I'm going back next month as it was great fun and the promoters and residents were great. Come on people, show your support!

Looking at my chart this month I'd say it was a **303** special, with acid lines appearing in every other track including deep house and breaks tracks. It's the acid house revolution, I tell you! And with that in mind I'm off to find a dark and dirty warehouse. . .



This is the vision that Daniella Westbrook sees when she's dreaming

## ZABIELA'S MAY HOT 10

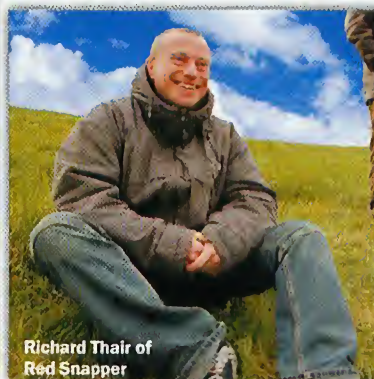
- 1 Critical Phase** The Phase Effect (Uptown Reshape) (New Religion)
- 2 Austin Tanney & Phil Kieran** Don't Sit Around (Naked Mix) (Slide)
- 3 Einhorn & Ossia** untitled (CD-R)
- 4 Precision Cuts & Rickie Whoop** Let This World Be (Stratosphere)
- 5 Un: Plug** Time Unlimited (Ground Earth Dub) (EQ)
- 6 Royksopp** Remind Me (? Remix) (Wall Of Sound)
- 7 Random Factor** Without You (20:20 Vision)
- 8 Primary Sequence** Strange Things Happening (Visitor)
- 9 Mad Dogs** Sudden Journey (Hyper & Rhymes Remix) (Bedrock Breaks)
- 10 Rocket** EZ Rider (Dano's Melancholy Dub Remix) (Grayhound)

## PREVIOUS WINNER TOP 10

**MICK MESA** (Winner, Dec 2001)

Mick now DJs in clubs around London and is about to enter the world of studio production

- 1 Jaydee** Plastic Dreams (Epic)
- 2 Onlonz** Horns In My Cave (Tango)
- 3 Derrick Carter** Ms E Love Jass (Iglou)
- 4 Femi Kuti** Fight To Win (Ernest St Laurent Mix) (Sound Of Barclay)
- 5 Josh One** Contemplation (King Britt Funke Mix) (Electromatrix)
- 6 Wally Lopez & Dr Kucho** Weekend EP (Weekend)
- 7 The Littlemen** I Know You Got Some (Drop Music)
- 8 X-Press 2** Featuring David Byrne Lazy (Skint)
- 9 Troffman** Hold You (Vocal Mix) (white label)
- 10 Schmoov** Destination (Schmoov Remix) (DIY Discs)



Richard Thair of Red Snapper

## ASK A PRO DJ

**Q: How hard is it to become a DJ outside commercial clubs?**

From David Cobbett, North London

**Richard Thair:** “How long have I got?! There are always people keeping the scene fresh and healthy, who will always give a new DJ a chance – it's all about appealing to people's love of music.

“I've just started a night called Toob to break the breakbeat mould in

Bristol. It's at The Blue Mountain, where people are trying something a bit different. And there are places like Fluid and the new Nuphonic bar in Hoxton that mix it up more.”

‘It's All Good’ by Red Snapper is out now on Keep Digging

**TEST**

# FOUR CHANNEL MIXERS

Two inputs good, four inputs better. But you'll need a **mixer** that can handle the weight

TEXT NICK WATTS PHOTOGRAPHY KINGSLEY BARKER



**BEST MUZIK VALUE**

## PIONEER DJM-600

A lot of features for the money, but can it cut the mustard? around £650

**Ease of use:** Big buttons, including a whopper for dialling in samples and FX, make this a doddle.

**Build:** Reassuringly chunky. **Extras:** Top quality effects, including an excellent pitch control, and an Auto BPM function that actually works. Great sample quality, although it's limited to two seconds sample time.

**Verdict:** Slightly more serious than the Numark, and worth the extra dosh.

**Rating:** ★★★★★

## NUMARK EM-460

Bargain bucket mixer with crazy controller from £495

**Ease of use:** A Kaoss touch pad for FX does away with a lot of knobs.

**Build:** Solid enough, but some crackle.

## TASCAM X-9

More bells and whistles than the Hare Krishnas £1,025

### Ease of use:

Daunting at first – every square inch bristles with knobs, buttons and switches.

But it's well worth persevering.

**Build:** The silky smooth faders impress, and there are smart touches like no screw heads by the crossfader, so scratch DJs won't lose fingernails.

**Extras:** Loads. Dual FX, dual samplers and an incredibly versatile EQ section. Digital inputs and outputs for recording straight to PC. User-assignable foot switches.

**Verdict:** Truly a pro machine, equally at home playing out or in the studio. Worth every penny.

**Rating:** ★★★★★

**BEST MUZIK BUY**



**Extras:** 50 preset effects and a sampler use the MIDI-transmitting Kaoss pad to change parameters.

**Verdict:** A decent budget package.

**Rating:** ★★★★★



## VESTAX PCM-55

A lot of dosh, not many extras. Is this posh mixer worth it? **£1,199**

**Ease of use:** There's not much to get your head around on this FX-free desk for purists.

**Build:** Made like a Merc, it's all tasteful brushed steel with reassuringly solid pots. But the rickety channel faders are a let-down.

**Extras:** A whopping 12 stereo inputs, including four phonos. Sends and returns on every channel help make up for the lack of onboard effects.

**Verdict:** A refined mixer, strictly for the upper class DJ with bags of cash.

**Rating:** ★ ★ ★



## ROLAND DJ-2000

Has this ground-breaking console stood the test of time? **£913**

**Ease of use:** In true Roland style, everything's labelled and separated, making it the most idiot-proof here.

**Build:** The ugly plastic looks fail to

impress. But it's sturdy underneath. Perhaps surprisingly, the crossfader was one of the nicest on test.

**Extras:** Plenty. The awesomely savage onboard FX can warp tunes beyond recognition. And the Isolator is wicked for slow sweeps and kills.

**Verdict:** Still the most fun mixer ever. Loads of toys for the boys.

**Rating:** ★ ★ ★ ★

### STOCKISTS:

Numark: 01252-341-400/www.numark.com Pioneer: 01753-789-789/www.djsounds.co.uk

Roland: 0845-130-5909/www.roland.co.uk Tascam: 01923-438-880/www.tascam.co.uk

Vestax: 01420-803-000/www.vestax.co.uk

## DJ GEAR NEWS



### NOB HEAVEN

If you're a control freak, this insanely small, two-octave polysynth from Novation is a must. You get more knobs per square inch than Eton, killer filters and a 12-band vocoder. All controls transmit MIDI and an audio input means you can put a twist on any external sound source.

**Novation K-Station, £499**



### NO ORDINARY JOE

Do your home recordings suck? Joe Meek have been making pro's sound great since the Sixties and now they've stripped down their outboard gear for budget music makers. A quality mic pre-amp eliminates hiss, an optical compressor adds warmth or punch, and there's a three-band, phase-levelling EQ. All analogue, of course.

**Joe Meek Micromeeek MQ3, £179**



### PROFESSOR GRIFF

Gadget addicts can relax: there's now a genuine reason to buy a PocketPC. This unique sequencing application bundles a sampler, synths and tons of onboard effects into a 2Mb download. CD-quality sound and real-time editing mean this is more than just a toy. Now, back to that spreadsheet.

**GRIFF Pocket Music Studio, £40**



### STOCKISTS:

**GRIFF:** 01732-812-200/ [www.planetgriff.com](http://www.planetgriff.com)

**Joe Meek:** 01803-321-921/ [www.joemeek.net](http://www.joemeek.net)

**Novation:** 01628-678-520/

[www.novationmusic.com](http://www.novationmusic.com)

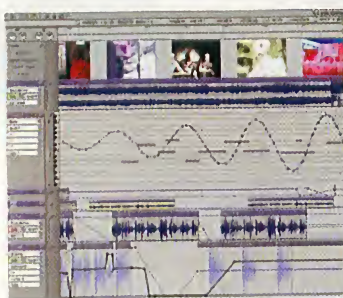
### HIGH END STUDIO KIT



### TOTAL RECALL

Ever wish you could go back in time? Now you can. The latest version of Motu's Mac recording software has a unique Timeline Undo, allowing you to return to any point in your project and start over. Other nifty extras include automatic tempo matching, enhanced surround sound support and FireWire video playback. It can't prevent you having made a fool of yourself last night though, alas.

**Motu Digital Performer 3.1, £599**



### DON'T RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE

Laptop failed you again? No wonder - nobody's building them with music-making in mind. No one except Red Submarine, that is. Their top of the range P4 2.2 GHz machine features two FireWire ports, two hard drives (one for programs, one for audio) and your choice of pro sound card. It excels at recording, where other laptops fold.

**Red Submarine Laptops, from £1,799 to £3,000**

**STOCKISTS:** Musictack (for Motu): 01767-313-447/ [www.motu.com](http://www.motu.com)

Red Submarine: 0870-740-4787/ [www.sub.co.uk](http://www.sub.co.uk)



PCV SERIES



PCV-175

PCV-150



2



PCV-003

# PLASTIC SURGERY...

The popular Titanium Vestax series mixers have been re-born with the new PCV (Plastic Conductive Volume) crossfader, designed and manufactured exclusively by Vestax. The technology behind the PCV crossfader, normally reserved for studio and broadcast standard equipment, has been tested to 2 MILLION passes without audible loss of quality. (Normal faders often "die" after only 100,000 passes). Add to this the stunning new face lift, the usual Vestax innovations and a range to suit everyone's needs and we are sure you will agree that this beauty is not just skin deep...

PCV-275



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**TEST**

# STAND-MOUNT SPEAKERS



## THE TEST CD

This month, all the speakers were tested by listening to the Timo Maas album, 'Loud'

Can these smaller bins pump up the volume?

TEXT **SIMON MUNK** PHOTOGRAPHY **KINGSLEY BARKER**

## WHAT'S BI-WIRING?

It's running two pairs of wires into your speakers – one carrying the bass, the other the treble. This makes them sound better. A bit.



### MISSION M72

Ruthlessly efficient

£170



If you want high and mid-tones picked out with laser precision for not much wonga, and don't mind a certain coldness, these are for you.

**Woof woof?** Can't quite handle the deepest of deep growls, good otherwise.

**Will it fly bi-wire?** Yes.

**Rating:** ★ ★ ★ ★

### ELAC 203

Aural sex

£400



This pair are stunning on hi-fi reproduction, with perfect separation of every note across all frequencies, yet the sound remains warm and friendly rather than clinical. These make anything sound brilliant – from So Solid Crew to Schubert – and they're loud for their size too. As if that weren't enough, the bizarre silver domes look ultra-flash to boot. Respect is due.

**Woof woof?** The bass is a Cruft's award-winner. But the cone shakes like a wet Alsatian at high volume.

**Will it fly bi-wire?** Yes.

**Rating:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



**BEST  
MUZIK  
BUY**

**ELAC**



## B&W DM 602 S3

Heavyweight sound  
£300

You'd need heavy-duty bookshelves to carry this pair, but the size has a pay-off. Mount them on decent stands and you'll get a warm, clear sound that can carry insane volume levels without any rumble in the bass or mud in the high-end. But this pitch-perfect sound has a drawback for those addicted to sub-bass – these are so clear they'll never give you any floor-shaking rumble.

**Woof woof?** Heavy, but no rumble.

**Will it fly bi-wire?** Yes.

**Rating:** ★ ★ ★ ★



## WHARFEDALE DIAMOND 8.1

Budget boomers  
£120

Crisp, with a good range and top-quality build, these sound fearsomely good for the money. The sound can come off a bit flat, and these don't punch out quite the ear-shattering power of the more expensive models in the test, but still, it's a deal, it's a steal, it's sale of the century.

**Woof woof?** Great bark for the money, maybe not quite enough bite.

**Will it fly bi-wire?** Yes.

**Rating:** ★ ★ ★ ★



## JAMO X 830

The dancehall queen  
£275

Jamo are the brand you'll see in every small club and pub in the land. And it's obvious why. These bass-monsters will cut through a crowd like nothing else. Likewise the walls of your pad. And your neighbour's too. The high-end can come across flat and nasal, but these will still whup any speakers your stereo came with for quality.

**Woof woof?** The Rottweiler of bass. Mean, muscular and totally unsubtle.

**Will it fly bi-wire?** No.

**Rating:** ★ ★ ★

### STOCKISTS:

**B&W:** 01903-750-750/ [www.bwspeakers.com](http://www.bwspeakers.com)

**Jamo:** 01788-556-777/ [www.jamo.co.uk](http://www.jamo.co.uk)

**Mission:** 01480-423-700/ [www.mission.co.uk](http://www.mission.co.uk)

**Sennheiser (for Elac):** 0800 652-5002/  
[www.sennheiser.co.uk](http://www.sennheiser.co.uk)

**Wharfedale:** 01480-447-700/  
[www.wharfedale.co.uk](http://www.wharfedale.co.uk)



Wharfedale

# HI-FI & GEAR NEWS



## SPEED FREAK

MiniDisc addicts will go wild for NetMD, the new high-speed link that can copy an entire album from your PC in three minutes flat. Add long play that squeezes five hours onto one disc, and battery life of up to 110 hours, and you have a portable that gives MP3 players a run for their money.

**Sony MZ-N1, around £260**



## SPIN SPIN SUGAR

The smallest and weirdest mobile yet. The cover rotates around the display to reveal the keypad. Its one-thumb spinning action and silver-on-black display are cool, but our fave feature is the backlit buttons. You can call or text no matter how dark the club you're in is when the keys are circled in an unearthly neon blue glow.

**Motorola V70, around £225 with contract**

## COLLAPSIBLE CONES

These are the ultimate party speakers: they're cheap, portable and made of cardboard – so who cares if they get trashed? It's the same clever technology used in expensive flat-panel speakers, so they put out a sound to rival real woofers and tweeters – you just need to turn the volume up pretty high to achieve it.

**Soundpax, £30 a pair**

## GET AN EARFUL

These soft plastic in-ear headphones fit snugly inside your lugholes, piping sound to within a few millimetres of the eardrums. The air-tight seal blocks out 15-20 decibels of external noise and means the rest of the world doesn't have to share your taste in nosebleed hardcore.

**Etymotic ER-6 earphones, £129**



words CARMEL QUINN



**STOCKISTS: DS Smith (for Soundpax): 0870-900-9870/www.soundpax.com**

**Motorola: 0800-0151-151/www.motorola.co.uk Sony: 08705-111-999/www.sony.co.uk UAS Enterprises (for Etymotic): 0870-0660-406/www.uasenterprises.com**

## WEIRD AUDIO CORNER



## JVC TAPE IT LIVE STEREO CASSETTE DECK

A chunky precursor to DAT and MiniDisc, this was a portable machine for recording at professional level, utilising JVC's Dolby equivalent noise reduction technology, ANRS. Commonly used by radio journos, field anthropologists and bootleggers (who would smuggle it into venues via the back passage), it would also have been useful to 'found

sound' enthusiasts – the Matthew Herberts of their day – like Germany's Einstürzende Neubauten, who once based a track around a field recording of Berlin's annual Mayday riots.

Muzik's vintage audio expert Richard Goldsmith of London shop Audio Gold says, "Although not that dissimilar to modern recording machines, this is so beautifully made it should last for 20 years. It sold quite badly compared to its Sony equivalent, but look at the VUs on the front – aren't they groovy?"

## THE SPECS

**Date:** 1980  
**Original price:** £102+VAT  
**Current price:** £100  
**Frequency response:** 30Hz-16KHz  
**Tape speed:** Normal: 17/8 inch per second  
**Tracks:** 4  
**Channels:** 2

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Artist / Group	Record Title	Comments / Remixer	Format	Price
ACCAPPELLAS / MIX TOOLS / DJ TOOLS / BATTLE WEAPONS / SCRATCH VINYL / BREAKS 'N' BEATS / SAMPLE LP'S				
CHAPTER ONE	INC IN THE BEGINNING THERE WAS JACK	UK(P)	£10.00	
BATTLE WAX VOL 1	THE ORIGINAL DJ TOOL	UK(P)	£12.00	
FROSTED BREAKS	MORE DJ TOOL 2.0	USA(2)	£15.00	
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Artist / Group	Record Title	Comments / Remixer	Format	Price
KYLIE MINOUGE	CANT GET YOU OUT OF HEAD	ORIGINAL / INSTRUMENTAL MIXES	UK(P)	£9.00

Artist / Group	Record Title	Comments / Remixer	Format	Price
ALAN BRAXE VS ROB SINCLAIR	RUNNING FOR YOU	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	GERMAN(P)	£12.00
SALSA MUSIKA (YELLOW VINYL)	MUSIC IS THE ANSWER & SALSA HOUSE	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£8.00
FATNESS VS GORILLAZ	PUMPHIN TRANCE MASH UP	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£12.00
FRANKIE KNUCKLES VS FINGERS	MASSIVE HURSTLE BROTHERS MASH UP	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£8.00
GARY NUNAN VS GRANT NELSON	BIG FUNK & B-LINE MASH UP TUNE	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£12.00
HATRAS VS KATHY BROWN	LOOPED DJ MASH UP PUMPHIN	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£5.00
JAKKITA VS MARTIN LUTHER KING	I HAVE A DREAM SPEECH OVER JAKKITA	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£12.00
JAMROQUI VS CRAIG DAVID	MASSIVE MASH UP CHECK IT	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£5.00
JOEY BELTRAMI & OPUS III	RARE DJ ONLY REMIX	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£12.00
KOSHIEEN VS TIMO MAAS	WICKED DJ REMIX WATCH OUT	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£8.00
JOEY BELTRAMI & OPUS III	MASSIVE PETE TONG TUNE	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£12.00
MICHAEL JACKSON VS Q-TIP	VERY LIT MASSIVE TRANCE MASH UP	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£8.00
RIVA VS ALANIS MORISSETTE	SUPER DJ REMIX MASH UP MAN	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£12.00
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SHEENA VS TERMINATION	PLAY ON RADIO 1 SEE FONTAINE	MASSIVE FUNKY HOUSE REMIX	UK(P)	£7.00
TIMO MAAS VS DANNY TENACIA				

Artist / Group	Record Title	Comments / Remixer	Format	Price
WICKED WAVE HELDEN REMIXES				
CRICKET/CLASSIC/NOVA REMIX				
CNO VOCAL / INSTRU / STYLIA BROWNE				
DNC BREAKIN BOUNDARIES				
MASSIVE STICKY REMIXES				
VOCAL & DUB MIXES				
BMJ JAMMIN - UNSTABLE				
AWESOME SPEED GARAGE ANTHEM				
CRICKET/CLASSIC/NOVA REMIX				
FOLLOW UP TO KNOW WE ROCKIN				
SAMPLEX 2 LONG TIME DEAD THE MOVIE				
3DS REMIX				
TODD EDWARDS STYLE GARAGE				

Artist / Group	Record Title	Comments / Remixer	Format	Price
MINI GLOW STICKS BLU/GRN				£1.00
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Artist / Group	Record Title	Comments / Remixer	Format	Price
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inc. over 60 games				
Mega J2 Main Power Supply				£19.99
				£6.99

Artist / Group	Record Title	Comments / Remixer	Format	Price
Kam DJ Starter Package, 2 Decks, Mixer & Headphones				£199
Gemini 2 x XL-200 Decks + 2 Channel Mixer + H-phones				£229
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Artist / Group	Record Title	Comments / Remixer	Format	Price
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VINYL BOX HOLDS 230				£22
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Artist / Group	Record Title	Comments / Remixer	Format	Price
I'm Proper Fu'ked!				£15
Wood Deck!				£15
Paradise Garage				£29.99
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Technics Scratch				£18
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DJing is				£13
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Girls Baby Tee - Navy				£15
Sundisland Girls Pink				£22
Sundisland 5th Birthday				£22
Sundisland Red Hooded				£50

Artist / Group	Record Title	Comments / Remixer	Format	Price
So You Want To Be A DJ				£14
Vestax Scratch Tutorial v1				£14
Vestax Scratch Tutorial v2				£14
Technics 2001 World Final				£14
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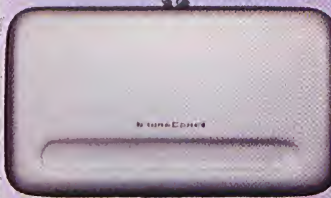
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**A**cetate (ass-E-tayt) *n.* Derived from 'ace', meaning 'good', 'Tat', meaning 'ephemera; of little value' and 'E' meaning, well, 'E'. Do you see?

Dub plates, lacquers, or 'reference records' (if you're old) are the stuff of dance music legend. Budding DJs are inducted into the world of

acetates only after making progress through the many Masonic levels of deck culture.

An acetate is like a vinyl record, only more *recordy*. Instead of 12-inch plates of bendy, vinyl plastic, acetates are 10-inch rigid slabs of metal covered in the chemical acetone, with the track etched in by a crystal stylus rather than pressed in. This etching is an arcane art practised only by

men who look like Arthur Baker and sleep in the pressing plant in which they work.

The best thing about acetates, aside from their weight, is the wonderful smell – it's the smell of a damp basement waiting to be filled with a sound system, the smell of bass waiting to rip through the air – it's enough to make even Peterbot Tong's bionic heart skip a beat.

Originally, acetates were used as the final check between master tape and vinyl pressing, but now they're there to get a 'massive new choon' out there fast. It's a nervous moment for the young DJ/producer as he enters his local vinyl-pressing house for the first time, a self-produced DAT or CD-R in his sweaty hands, desperate to transform it into the package of white label, yellow sleeve, the

odour of solvents and a strange additional hole off-centre.

If you get hold of an acetate, treat it well. They're ephemeral things and the grooves will wear smooth after only a few plays. Each play is precious, a one-off spin that cuts away at the heart of the tune. And if it's a Danny Tenaglia acetate, don't play it at all. Put it on Ebay and start choosing a Ferrari.

photo JASON MANNING

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